

AWARD NUMBER: W81XWH-14-2-0129

TITLE: Restoring Bladder Function by Spinal Cord Neuromodulation in SCI

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Dr. Daniel Lu

CONTRACTING ORGANIZATION: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
LOS ANGELES, CA 90095

REPORT DATE: October 2016

TYPE OF REPORT: ANNUAL

PREPARED FOR: U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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1. REPORT DATE October 2016		2. REPORT TYPE Annual		3. DATES COVERED 30 Sep 2015 - 29 Sep 2016	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Restoring Bladder Function by Spinal Cord Neuromodulation in SCI				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER W81XWH-14-2-0129	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S) Daniel C. Lu, M.D., Ph. D. 300 Stein Plaza. Ste 562. Los Angeles, CA. 90095 E-Mail:dclu@mednet.ucla.edu				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES 10833 Le Conte Ave, Los Angeles, CA. 90095				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for Public Release; Distribution Unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT We are submitting our Annual progress report for our grant entitled "Restoring Bladder Function by Spinal Cord Neuromodulation in SCI" (SC103209).Over the last year, we have initiated and completed the pilot study on five naïve subjects and their follow-up and started to delineate the best magnetic stimulating parameter for restoring bladder function in SCI patients. As you will see in the report, we have noticed a significant difference between high frequency and low frequency magnetic stimulations in order to restoring urinary functions in SCI individuals. This also correlates with some electrophysiological findings. In the upcoming year, we are planning on enrolling more subjects to continue testing our hypothesis and complete the pilot phase of the study. As you can appreciate from the progress report, we remain on time to accomplish the tasks set forth in the study. We believe this study will yield important information to restore bladder function in SCI patients that will make a dramatic impact on the lives of those living with SCI.					
15. SUBJECT TERMS Spinal Cord Injury, Urinary Function, Magnetic Stimulation					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT Unclassified	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 98	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON USAMRMC
a. REPORT Unclassified	b. ABSTRACT Unclassified	c. THIS PAGE Unclassified			19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (include area code)

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
1. Introduction.....	4
2. Keywords.....	4
3. Accomplishments.....	4
4. Impact.....	10
5. Changes/Problems.....	10
6. Products.....	11
7. Participants & Other Collaborating Organizations.....	12
8. Special Reporting Requirements.....	13
9. Appendices.....	15

1. INTRODUCTION:

The central objective of this project is to use **non-invasive neuromodulation that can produce improved bladder function by enabling the function of spared circuitry in the spinal cord.** This normalization of the spinal cord function is accomplished through a process of functional neuroplasticity whereby neuromodulation (e.g. electromagnetic stimulation) activates spinal circuits associated with micturition. It also facilitates ascending projections for improved sensation and descending projections for volitional voiding. A subset of subjects appears to experience long-lasting improvements and can void in the absence of stimulation. A total of 18 male/female, age 18+, >1 year post (C2-T8, non-conus) injury with complete but stable severe motor paralysis (ASIA A, B) and catheterization dependent for urination will be enrolled.

2. KEYWORDS:

Corticospinal tract, Dorsal Root Ganglia, Epidural Spinal Cord Stimulation, Electromyography, Machine learning, Magnetic Stimulation, Gaussian Process Optimization, Neurogenic Detrusor Overactivity, Spinal Cord Evoked Potentials, Urinary Tract Infection

3. ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

In an allied area of sensorimotor rehabilitative research, we have discovered a method that is superior to transcutaneous electrical spinal cord stimulation (TESS) in the delivery of neuromodulatory stimulation to the spinal cord. We have identified magnetic stimulation, also known as transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) as a better method for the following reasons.

a. Better energy delivery to deep structures. The magnitude of energy penetrating tissues and reaching the cord appears to be superior that of TESS. In our separate cohort of patients, TMS demonstrated superiority to activate the spinal cord interneurons to improve motor function, with an approximate 80% superiority in the generation of hand grip force. Additionally this positive effect is observed immediately during the first session, unlike TESS that requires a prolonged training period of 3-6 months.

b. Painless Stimulation. Our preliminary studies with TESS were very promising; however the consistently high levels of energy needed to reach the cord are prohibitive due to pain in about 40% of subjects with preserved sensation. It may be that reaching nerve roots with lower energies has provided some favorable preliminary results. We hypothesize that delivery of energy to the spinal cord is necessary to activate neuronal circuitry within the spinal cord that coordinates the activity of bladder function.

c. Access. Several manufacturers have marketed magnetic stimulation devices making these devices available to patients.

d. Durable Improvements: Our preliminary research in bladder and other regions of the spinal cord indicate that the improvements in function that occur after treatment can last for up to 6 months. This obviates the need to home use and a portable device. If patients experience a decline in function, they can return for therapy to improve function.

Because of the overwhelming superiority of the TMS device compared to TESS device, we elected to use the TMS for this study. With the TMS device, we will likely accomplish the aims set forth in the project faster and more effectively.

- **What were the major goals of the project?**

Month 0-18. Task 1

Determine the optimal stimulation parameters to enable micturition in SCI subjects.

We will determine combinations of spinal cord stimulation level (vertebral body level T10-L4, +/- coccyx), stimulation frequency (1-30 Hz) twice weekly for 24 weeks. A machine learning algorithm will guide subsequent stimulation parameters (Task 3). Subjects will be evaluated at each session for urine flow and volume, and assessments of quality of life and urinary function. Formal urodynamics will be tested monthly and at the conclusion of the 6-month study. Results will be prepared for manuscript publication.

Percent Complete: 75%

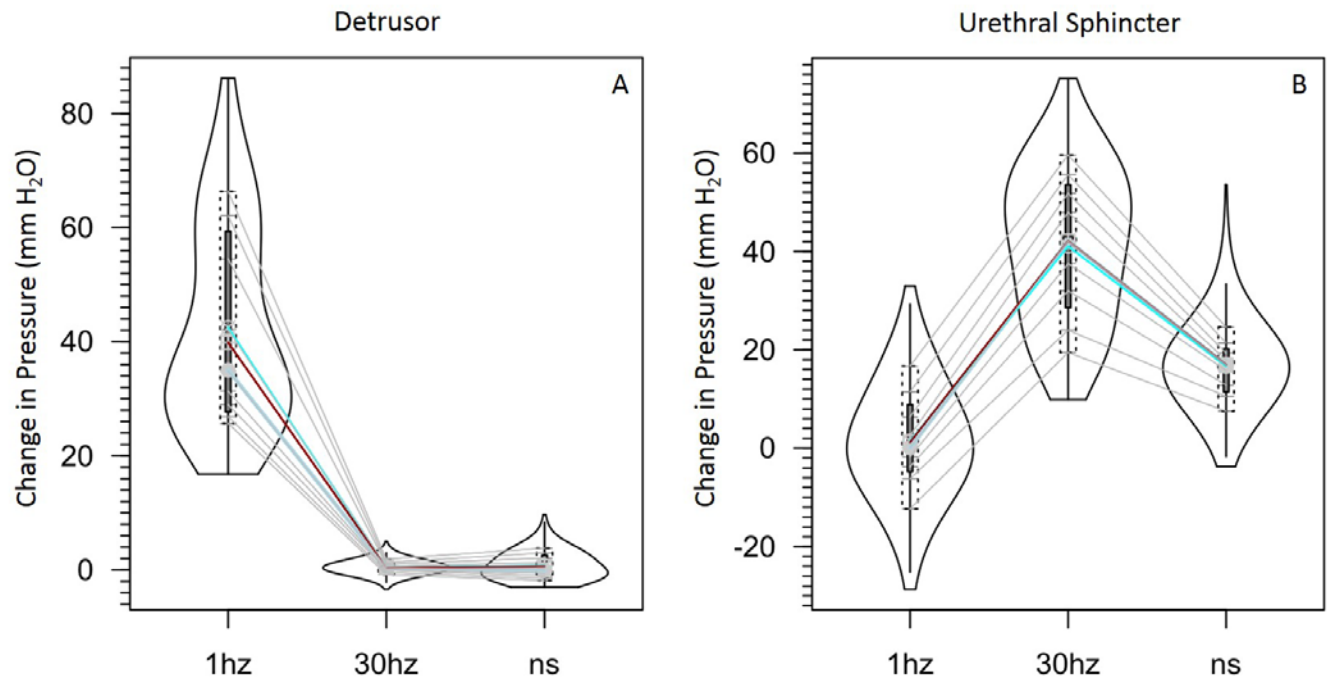


Figure 1: Violin plots of change in pressure, expressed as mm water, by stimulation condition for detrusor and urethral sphincters. Each violin shows mean and median (heavy horizontal lines) plus standard deviation (heavy vertical bars) and deciles (in light grey) using a kernel density estimator of the data distribution. For the measure labeled "Detrusor" (A) the 1hz condition resulted in a mean value of 42.47 (sd 17.27) while the no-stimulation and the 30hz conditions showed means of 0.47 (sd 1.06) and 0.75 (sd 2.38), respectively. For the measure labeled "Urethral sphincter" (B) the 1hz condition resulted in a mean of 1.44 (sd 10.94) while the no-stimulation and 30hz conditions showed means of 41.07 (sd 15.03) and 16.66 (sd 7.76), respectively. Analyses of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey HSD post-hoc testing were used to examine the differences between conditions in each of the two measures. In both instances, the results indicate that the 1Hz condition differed from both the no-stimulation condition and the 30Hz condition ($p < 0.0001$), but the latter two did not differ from one another.

We have several observations:

1) when there is no percutaneous magnetic stimulation, the urethral pressures increase more than the detrusor pressure increase during volitional attempt. This is indicative and a hallmark of detrusor sphincter dys-synergia (DSD), a condition that is frequently recognized in SCI subjects.

2) with low frequency stimulation, subjects have minimal change (actually mostly decrease) in urethral pressure during volitional voiding while the detrusor pressure increases significantly; hence facilitate emptying.

3) With high frequency (30Hz) stimulation, subjects have significantly increased urethral pressure with minimal to no change in detrusor pressure; hence facilitating storage.

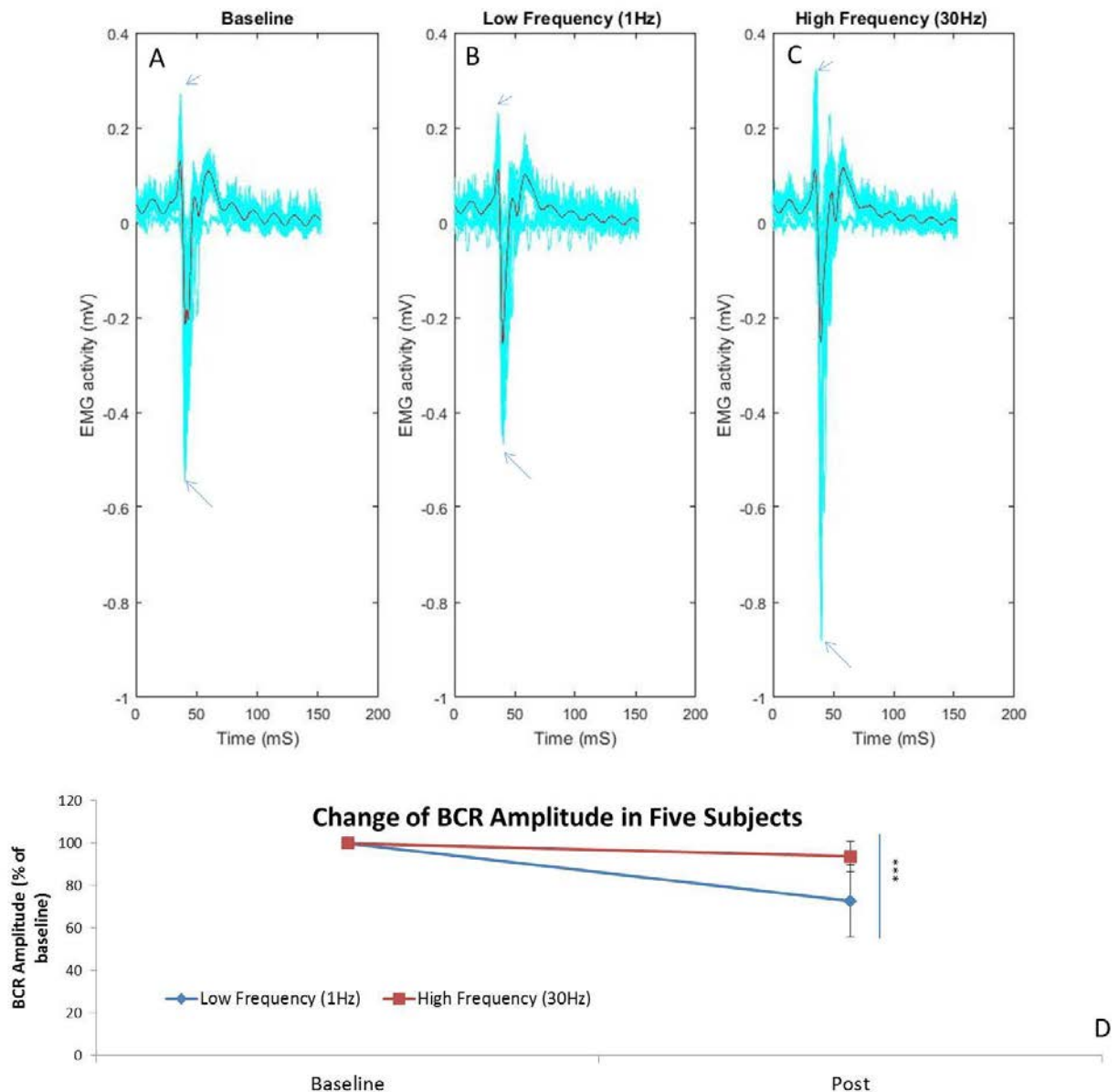


Figure 2: Change in BCR amplitude, which is measured from the perineal muscle EMG, during low frequency (1 Hz) and high frequency (30 Hz) transcutaneous magnetic spinal cord stimulation. A, B & C. An example of measured the BCR from subject C at Baseline (A), after low frequency stimulation (B) and after high frequency stimulation (C) respectively; blue = individual electrical recordings; red = average. D = amplitude changes in all five subjects. Note a significantly higher degree of reduction of BCR amplitude after low frequency stimulation when

compared to high frequency stimulation. Student's t-test: *** = $p < 0.0001$. BCR = bulbocavernosus reflex.

Several observations:

- 1) Low frequency transcutaneous magnetic stimulation significantly reduced the BCR amplitude in all five subjects. In contrast, high frequency stimulation resulted in either further increased amplitude or no significant change (Figure 2). The average BCR latency was 35.2 ± 5.3 ms, which is similar to the latency of the BCR in normal individuals²². The baseline amplitude, however, ranged from 490-3800 μ V; amplitudes that are about 10-100 times greater than those of normal individuals²². During low frequency stimulation, the BCR amplitude was significantly decreased to between 440-3100 μ V compared to the unstimulated baseline (an average reduction of 28%, $p < 0.0001$). High frequency stimulation did not alter the BCR amplitude from baseline, which ranged between 475-3700 μ V ($p = 0.61$)
- 2) The modifications in the BCR also support the hypothesis that we accessed the micturition spinal circuitry rather than direct motor neuron stimulation as modifications of a polysynaptic reflex such as BCR require more than simple motor neuron stimulation. BCR amplitudes for our subjects at baseline were 10 to 100 times greater than those in normal individuals. This observation suggests that SCI subjects have decreased supraspinal inhibition of the BCR polysynaptic reflex. With low frequency stimulation, we observed a decrease in the BCR amplitudes and this implied an improved inhibition of the BCR polysynaptic reflex (likely via spinal micturition circuitry). However, high frequency stimulation did not decrease the BCR amplitude. (Figure 2) We hypothesize that this decrease in BCR amplitudes in chronic SCI with low frequency magnetic stimulation may signified a decreasing external sphincter motor pool hyperactivity or possibly modulating supraspinal input such that more supraspinal signal got through past the lesioned site; and hence enabling more volitional urinary functions that we observed in our subjects.

Month 19-36. Task 2

Determine the minimum training conditions to enable micturition in SCI subjects.

With the stimulation parameters from Task 1, we will determine a pre-training regimen in naïve SCI subjects that are injury matched to those in Task 1. In addition to determining the minimum number sessions, we will examine the type of training sessions, twice weekly for 24 weeks. Assessments as in Task 1. Results will be prepared for manuscript publication.

Percent Complete: 25%

Month 1-48. Task 3

Application of machine learning strategy to determining the optimal stimulation and training parameters for micturition in SCI subjects.

Data from each session will be added to a machine learning algorithm database in order to determine the most effective parameters for the most recent session and guide stimulation parameters for subsequent sessions. At the conclusion of this Task, the optimal conditions for urination will be determined and used in the clinical trial. Results will be prepared for manuscript publication.

Percent Complete: 25%

Month 37-48 Task 4

Application of the optimal stimulation and training parameters for micturition in SCI subjects in a pilot clinical trial.

This Task will combine the optimal stimulation parameters from Tasks 1-3. We will determine the optimized stimulation paradigm that can improve micturition function in naïve, SCI subjects. In this Task 12 subjects that are injury matched to Task 1-2 will be recruited. Each of 12 subjects will be tested twice weekly for 6 months. Urodynamics and self-assessments, as Task 1. Results will be prepared for manuscript publication.

Percent Complete: 10%

▪ What was accomplished under these goals?

Relevant to all above listed goals, we have completed the necessary approval to enroll subjects, recruited the necessary expertise and personnel to conduct the study with the revised device (TMS). Specifically we have (at the time of this reporting):

1. Revised and identified key personnel reflecting the change in research strategy.
2. Obtained approval for USAMRAA for device and personnel change.
3. Obtained budgetary approval of the change from USAMRAA.
4. Acquired and purchased all necessary equipment for this study.
5. Obtained UCLA IRB approval.
6. Obtained final HRPO approval.
7. Enrolled Six subjects.
8. Completed stimulation and follow-up in Five subjects

We fully anticipate to accomplish the goals set forth within the same timeline described above. In the previous 3 months of Task 1, we have begun to identify the optimal parameters for stimulation and proceeding onto the subsequent tasks as planned. Figure 1 clearly demonstrated the different effect when stimulation was applied with low and high frequencies.

▪ What opportunities for training and professional development has the project provided?

This project has provided an opportunity for advancement in the study of molecular and cellular basis of spinal central pattern generator activity by Tianyi Niu, MD, a Neurosurgery Fellow with Dr. Lu; William Alaynick, PhD, a Project Scientist Step IV with Dr. Lu; and for the PI, Dr. Lu. A resulting manuscript has been accepted to *Frontiers in Molecular Neuroscience* and is attached in the Appendix. A second review manuscript with the same authors has been accepted at *Current Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Reports* and is attached in the Appendix. This knowledge will help to guide the further design and interpretation of this study's results. The authors are also working on another manuscript that will publish our initial encouraging results so far.

▪ How were the results disseminated to communities of interest?

William Alaynick, PhD, Project Scientist UCLA delivered a lecture, "Spinal Central Pattern Generating Circuitry: From Bench to Bedside" at the European Neuroscience Institute at the University of Göttingen in Germany on December 16th 2014.

- **What do you plan to do during the next reporting period to accomplish the goals?**

During the upcoming period, we plan to accomplish the following goals:

Task 1: Confirm the optimal stimulation parameters to enable micturition in chronic SCI subjects. We plan to complete the 6th subject's stimulation and then perform electrophysiologic diagnostic testing (bulbocavernosus reflex, spinal evoked potentials) in those individuals before, during and after the magnetic stimulation in order to confirm the optimal setting for stimulation. We plan to analyze the electrophysiology data to assess if we can use bulbocavernosus reflex as a more instantaneous measurement of effectiveness of magnetic stimulations. We also plan to compare some quality of life parameters for all the enrolled subjects to evaluate if there is indeed an improvement. Lastly, we plan on continue to enroll more subjects for the study.

Task 2: Determine the minimum training conditions to enable micturition in SCI subjects. The subjects will be motor trained to prime the lumbosacral circuitry. The minimum training conditions that will enable micturition will be assessed. We have begun have begun to decipher the training conditions, while finalizing it at year 3 of the project.

Task 3: Application of machine learning strategy to determining the optimal stimulation and training parameters for micturition in SCI subjects.

Machine learning will be utilized and applied throughout in Tasks 1 and 2 to obtain the optimal conditions to enable voluntary micturition.

4. **IMPACT:**

- **What was the impact on the development of the principal discipline(s) of the project?**

Our hypothesis that non-invasive magnetic stimulation can improve urinary bladder function has been supported in a small number of initial experiments, as planned. This warrants to continued investigation of this hypothesis and line of research.

- **What was the impact on other disciplines?**

This research has led us to hypothesize that this type of sensorimotor rehabilitative intervention may be applicable to other indications, including central (e.g. cortical) injuries. This is only a hypothesis at this point and has not been disseminated by publication or lecture at this time.

- **What was the impact on technology transfer?**

The PI has submitted an Invention Disclosure to the UCLA Technology Transfer Office related to the use of magnetic stimulation in rehabilitative bladder/urinary function therapy. The UCLA TTO will file a provisional patent application on behalf of the PI and UCLA.

- **What was the impact on society beyond science and technology?**

The initial experiments are consistent with the hypotheses and objectives of this research plan and await further experimental results for confirmation.

5. **CHANGES/PROBLEMS:**

- **Changes in approach and reasons for change**

In an allied area of sensorimotor rehabilitative research, we have discovered a method that is superior to transcutaneous electrical spinal cord stimulation (TESS) in the delivery of neuromodulatory stimulation to the spinal cord. We have identified magnetic stimulation, also known as transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) as a better method for the following reasons.

a. Better energy delivery to deep structures. The magnitude of energy penetrating tissues and reaching the cord appears to be superior that of TESS.

b. Painless Stimulation. Our preliminary studies with TESS were very promising; however the consistently high levels of energy needed to reach the cord are prohibitive due to pain in about 40% of subjects with preserved sensation. It may be that reaching nerve roots with lower energies has provided some favorable preliminary results. We hypothesize that delivery of energy to the spinal cord is necessary to activate neuronal circuitry within the spinal cord that coordinates the activity of bladder function.

c. Access. Several manufacturers have marketed magnetic stimulation devices making these devices available to patients

d. Durable Improvements: Our preliminary research in bladder and other regions of the spinal cord indicate that the improvements in function that occur after treatment can last for up to 6 months. This obviates the need to home use and a portable device. If patients experience a decline in function, they can return for therapy to improve function.

- **Actual or anticipated problems or delays and actions or plans to resolve them**

Nothing to Report

- **Changes that had a significant impact on expenditures**
Nothing to Report
- **Significant changes in use or care of human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazards, and/or select agents**
The UCLA IRB and DoD Humans Subjects approval were modified from the use of electrical stimulation to the use of magnetic stimulation.
- **Significant changes in use or care of human subjects**
The UCLA IRB and DoD Humans Subjects approval were modified from the use of electrical stimulation to the use of magnetic stimulation.
- **Significant changes in use or care of vertebrate animals.**
Not Applicable
- **Significant changes in use of biohazards and/or select agents**
Not Applicable
-

6. PRODUCTS:

- **Publications, conference papers, and presentations**
- **Journal publications.**
 1. Gerasimenko Y, Gorodnichev R, Puhov A, Moshonkina T, Savochin A, Selionov V, Roy RR, **Lu DC**, Edgerton VR. Initiation and modulation of locomotor circuitry output with multisite transcutaneous electrical stimulation of the spinal cord in noninjured humans. *J Neurophysiol.* 2015 Feb 1;113(3):834-42. doi: 10.1152/jn.00609.2014. Epub 2014 Nov 5
Status of publication: Accepted
Acknowledgment of federal support: Yes
 2. Gad PN, Roy RR, Zhong H, **Lu DC**, Gerasimenko YP, Edgerton VR. Initiation of bladder voiding with epidural stimulation in paralyzed, step trained rats. *PLoS One.* 2014 Sep 29;9(9):e108184. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0108184. eCollection 2014.
Status of publication: Accepted
Acknowledgment of federal support: Yes
 3. **Lu DC**, Niu T, Alaynick WA. Molecular and cellular development of spinal cord locomotor circuitry. *Front Mol Neurosci.* 2015 Jun 16;8:25.
Status of publication: Accepted
Acknowledgment of federal support: Yes
 4. Niu T, Alaynick WA, **Lu DC**. Strategies and lessons in spinal cord injury rehabilitation. *Current Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Reports* 2015 3;3, 206-213
Status of publication: Accepted
Acknowledgment of federal support: Yes
 5. Hoffman H, Lee SI, Garst JH, Lu DS, Li CH, Nagasawa DT, Ghalehsari N, Jahanforouz N, Razaghy M, Espinal M, Ghavamrezaii A, Paak BH, Wu I, Sarrafzadeh M, **Lu DC**. Use of multivariate linear regression and support vector regression to predict functional

outcome after surgery for cervical spondylotic myelopathy.mJ Clin Neurosci. 2015 Sep;22(9):1444-9.

Status of publication: Accepted

Acknowledgment of federal support: Yes

6. Gerasimenko YP, **Lu DC**, Modaber M, Zdunowski S, Gad P, Sayenko DG, Morikawa E, Haakana P, Ferguson AR, Roy RR, Edgerton VR. Noninvasive Reactivation of Motor Descending Control after Paralysis. J Neurotrauma. 2015 Aug 20.

Status of publication: Accepted

Acknowledgment of federal support: Yes

7. Lee S, Mortazavi B, Hoffman H, Lu D, Li C, Paak B, Garst J, Razaghy M, Espinal M, Park E, **Lu DC**, Sarrafzadeh M. A Prediction Model for Functional Outcomes in Spinal Cord DisorderPatients using Gaussian Process Regression. IEEE J Biomed Health Inform. 2014 Nov 20

Status of publication: Accepted

Acknowledgment of federal support: Yes

- **Books or other non-periodical, one-time publications.**

Nothing to Report

- **Other publications, conference papers, and presentations.**

1. Presentation: William Alaynick, PhD, Visiting Project Scientist UCLA delivered a lecture, “Spinal Central Pattern Generating Circuitry: From Bench to Bedside” at the European Neuroscience Institute at the University of Göttingen in Germany on December 16th 2014.

- **Website(s) or other Internet site(s)**

Nothing to Report

- **Technologies or techniques**

In pursuit of allied research that is germane to this project we found that magnetic stimulation is more effective than electrical stimulation. We will be formally studying this discovery here and report and disseminate these results for the rehabilitative bladder/urinary function therapy.

- **Inventions, patent applications, and/or licenses**

The PI has submitted an Invention Disclosure to the UCLA Technology Transfer Office related to the use of magnetic stimulation in rehabilitative bladder/urinary function therapy. The UCLA TTO will file a provisional patent application on behalf of the PI and UCLA.

- **Other Products**

Nothing to Report

2. PARTICIPANTS & OTHER COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

- What individuals have worked on the project?

■

Name:	Daniel C. Lu, MD, PhD
Project Role:	Principle Investigator
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):	1234567
Nearest person month worked:	2.52 person months per year. ~1 month this period
Contribution to Project:	Dr. Lu oversaw all aspect of research and administration of this program
Funding Support:	NIH U01
Name:	William Alaynick, PhD
Project Role:	Project Scientist
Researcher Identifier (e.g. ORCID ID):	1234567
Nearest person month worked:	2.88 person months per year. ~1 month this period
Contribution to Project:	Dr. Alaynick contributed to the IRB regulatory approval and continued intellectual development of the research plan
Funding Support:	None

- Has there been a change in the active other support of the PD/PI(s) or senior/key personnel since the last reporting period?

Nothing to Report

- What other organizations were involved as partners?

Nothing to Report

3. SPECIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- COLLABORATIVE AWARDS: Not Applicable

○ QUAD CHARTS:

Improving Cortical Sensorimotor Function and Headache with Spinal Cord Neuromodulation
Funding Opportunity: SC130209 (W81XWH-14-2-0129)
Clinical Trial Quarterly Progress Report

PI: Daniel C. Lu MD, PhD

Org: UCLA, WestLA Veterans Hospital

Award Amount: \$2,159,707

Study/Product Aim(s)

- Aim 1: Determine the optimal stimulation parameters to enable micturition in SCI subjects
- Aim 2: Determine the minimum training conditions to enable micturition in SCI subjects.
- Aim 3: Application of machine learning strategy to determining the optimal stimulation and training parameters for micturition in SCI subjects
- Aim 4: Application of the optimal stimulation and training parameters for micturition in SCI subjects in a pilot clinical trial

Approach

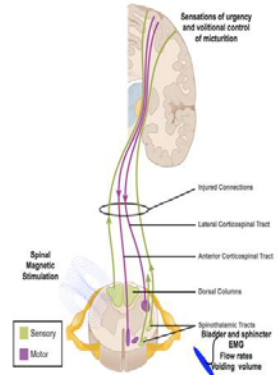
Aim 1 & 2: Our established regimen of neuromodulation-facilitated sensorimotor rehabilitation will be applied with changes in bladder function as outcome. Aim 3: Machine learning to determine best parameters for Aim 1-2. Aim 4: Phase 1/2 clinical trial to evaluate bladder function.

• We have shown that neuromodulation of spinal cord in combination with conventional sensorimotor rehabilitation improves sensorimotor bladder function in SCI and TBI.

• We discovered that this multimodal approach has reduced improves bladder function.

• We propose a clinical trial to validate these discoveries.

• 6 subjects are enrolled. 5 completed stimulation sessions. We are moving closer to identify the best parameter to enhance micturition



Timeline and Cost

Activities	CY	15	16	17	18
Aim1-2: Explore rehab parameters					
Aim 3: Define best parameters					
Aim 4: Apply best in Phase1/2 trial					
Estimated Budget (\$K)		\$675	\$504	\$489	\$489

Updated: (Jul 15 2016)

Goals/Milestones

CY15 Goal – Pilot trial of MagStim + motor rehab for bladder function

☒ Obtained UCLA and DoD IRB approvals for Magnetic Stimulation

☒ Explore MagStim and bladder rehab parameter space

CY16 Goals – Machine Learning; Pilot trial (cont.)

☐ Apply machine learning strategy to define best parameters in pilot

☒ Complete pilot trial with naïve subjects

CY17 Goal – Machine Learning; Pilot trial (cont.)

☐ Develop best parameters for trial

CY18 Goal – Clinical trial of MagStim + motor rehab for bladder function

☐ Complete clinical trial

☐ Organize and analyze data for conferences and publications

Comments/Challenges/Issues/Concerns

- We have obtained UCLA IRB approval for the use of MagStim in bladder rehabilitation work proposed here.

4. **APPENDICES:**

1. University of California, Los Angeles Institutional Review Board Approval.
2. Publication.

Date: Wednesday, September 14, 2016 9:11:15 AM

Print Close

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 1.1 - Study Title and Key Personnel

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Study Title and Key Personnel

All items marked with a red asterisk (*) are required. Items without an asterisk may or may not be required depending on whether the items are applicable to this study.

1.0 *Full Title of the Submission:

Restoring Bladder Function by Spinal Cord Neuromodulation in SCI

1.1 Protocol Version Date and/or Number:

2.0 *Working or Lay Title:

Restoring Bladder Function by Spinal Cord Neuromodulation in SCI

3.0 Principal Investigator:

3.1 *Name: DANIEL LU

Degree(s): If degrees are not shown here, please add them to the next section, Section 1.1a/Item 1.0, which will then update the Principal Investigator's webIRB account information.
MD PhD

3.2 UCLA Title: Associate Professor

3.3 *Will the Principal Investigator conduct the informed consent process with potential study participants?

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not Applicable

3.4 *Is the Principal Investigator an undergraduate student, graduate student, post-doctoral fellow, or resident physician?

☐ Yes ☒ No

3.4.1 If you answered "yes" to the above question, indicate the Faculty Sponsor for this study.

3.5 UCLA Policy 900 defines types of UCLA employees who may be eligible to serve as a Principal Investigator. Check the policy to see if the Principal Investigator for this study needs an exception to the eligibility requirements.

If an exception is needed, either attach the letter of exception here, or indicate a Faculty Sponsor in the above item.

Document Name

Document Version #

There are no items to display

4.0 Study Contact Person: Indicate the person, in addition to the Principal Investigator, who should receive all of the study correspondence.

WILLIAM ALAYNICK

5.0 List the key personnel and study staff below.

Note: All personnel listed below are required to complete CITI training courses. HIPAA training is also required if personnel will be accessing protected health information.

Please make sure to have all key personnel update their webIRB profile, contact information.

Instructions on how to update the webIRB profile: [Click here.](#)

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 1.1a - Other Personnel

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Other Personnel

All items marked with a red asterisk (*) are required. Items without an asterisk may or may not be required depending on whether the items are applicable to this study.

1.0 Principal Investigator

1.1 **Name:** DANIEL LU

***Please type the Degree(s):** MD PhD

1.2 **Principal Investigator's UCLA Department:**
NEUROSURGERY

1.3 ***Protocol's UCLA Home Department:** NEUROSURGERY

This response defaults to the PI's payroll department. If you wish to affiliate this protocol with another department, please select the department from the list above.

For tips on effective search, please see guidance to the right.

2.0 If there will be other types of personnel working directly under the PI's supervision on aspects of the study, provide their name, title and institution, indicate their responsibilities, training and qualifications and complete Item 2.1.

Please also indicate, if applicable, whether that person will obtain consent, manage device accountability, have access to personally identifiable information and/or have access to the code key.

Note: If there will not be other types of personnel go to Item 3.0.

Name, title, institution Study role(s): e.g., conduct interviews/surveys, recruit participants, obtain consent, review records, etc.

View

For existing protocols: Item 2.0 has been modified and this item cannot be edited. When submitting an amendment please use the information found in the text box below to complete Item 2.0 above.

Briefly describe the other study personnel.

2.1 **Indicate the human subjects research training these personnel have or will receive. If training is required in a language other than English or if research is occurring in a location where research personnel do not have access to the internet (e.g., rural community without internet capability), please describe how human subjects training requirements will be fulfilled.**

Check all that apply:

☒ CITI Training

☒ UC HIPAA Training

☐ Other

2.2 **If you indicated "Other" to item 2.1, describe:**

3.0 *Will any of the study procedures or analyses be contracted to a consultant or an organization?

☐ Yes ☒ No

3.1 **If yes, specify the consultant(s) and/or organization(s) and the work that they will do for the study.**

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Type of Study Review

1.0 * Indicate the level of risk involved with this study.

(if there are multiple groups or phases associated with this study, select the highest level of risk.)

- ☐ Minimal risk or no known risks - Click here for the OHRPP tip sheet on minimal risk.
- ☒ Greater than minimal risk

2.0 * Indicate the type of review that you are requesting for this study.

- ☒ IRB Review: Expedited or Full Board
- ☐ Certification of Exemption from IRB Review

2.1 If you indicated "IRB Review: Expedited or Full Board" as the type of review in item 2.0, select the IRB that you think best matches your research.

Name	Description
<input type="radio"/> Medical Institutional Review Board 1	MIRB1 reviews general and internal medicine, infectious diseases and ophthalmologic research.
<input type="radio"/> Medical Institutional Review Board 2	MIRB2 reviews oncology and hematology research.
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Medical Institutional Review Board 3	MIRB3 reviews neuroscience, neurology, psychiatric, drug abuse and dental research.
<input type="radio"/> North General Institutional Review Board	NGIRB reviews research from the College of Letters & Science and the Professional Schools.
<input type="radio"/> South General Institutional Review Board	SGIRB reviews social-behavioral research from the Schools of Public Health, Nursing, and Medicine.

Please note: The above requests are for initial routing purposes only. The final decision as to committee assignment and type of review, rests with OHRPP and/or the IRBs.

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Conflict of Interest Information

1.0 * Does the Principal Investigator, any of the key personnel, or their spouses, registered domestic partners, or dependent children, have a financial interest in the sponsor (profit, non-for-profit) of the research?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1.1 If yes, attach a completed copy of the Financial Interests Form for each person who indicates a financial or related interest:

Document Name	Document Version #
There are no items to display	

2.0 * Does the Principal Investigator, any of the key personnel, or their spouses, registered domestic partners, or dependent children, have any financial interests related to the research sponsored by a government agency?

☐ Yes ☒ No

2.1 If yes, attach a completed copy of the Financial Interests Form:

Document Name	Document Version #
There are no items to display	

3.0 * Indicate whether any of these financial interests have been submitted to or reviewed by the UCLA campus Conflict of Interest Review Committee (CIRC):

☒ Yes ☐ No

3.1 If you have received a response from CIRC, attach it here:

Document Name	Document Version #
Lu 2014-0038 follow up 3-13-2015.pdf	0.01
Lu 2014-0038 follow up 5-7-15 (1).pdf	0.01
Lu CIRC letter 3-19-14 DoD 14-000932.pdf	0.01

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Study Locations

- 1.0 *Indicate the locations where any research activities will be performed by the UCLA research team with participants and/or private information obtained.**

Check all that apply:

- ☒ a. UCLA Sites or UCLA Health System Sites
- ☐ b. Off Campus (in California)
- ☐ c. Outside California (in the U.S.)
- ☐ d. Outside the United States ***See note at right**
- ☐ e. Internet

- 1.1 If you selected b, c or d above, please provide your assurance that documentation of each site's permission to conduct the research at the site(s) will be obtained and maintained by the UCLA PI as applicable:**

Agree ☐

- 2.0 *Is this a multi-institutional study (i.e., a collaborative project with other sites that have their own IRBs or principal investigators)?**

(Includes but not limited to UC MOU and CTSI MOU collaborations where UCLA IRB review is requested.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If no, please skip directly to the next page, do not complete the questions below.

If yes, please answer items 2.1-2.3:

- 2.1 Will UCLA be responsible for the overall direction of the study at the other institutions?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

- 2.1.1 Indicate the measures that will be taken to assure regulatory compliance at each site and that the following types of information will be communicated to the other sites: study procedures; modifications to the protocol and related documents; and safety updates, interim results and other information that may impact risks to study participants.**

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Conference calls or meetings with minutes distributed to each site
- ☐ Timely e-mail communications
- ☐ Postings on the study website
- ☐ Other

- 2.1.1.1 If you chose "other", describe.**

- 2.1.2 If you answered "yes" to item 2.1 above, please provide your assurance that the current IRB approval for each site(s) will be obtained and maintained by the UCLA PI as applicable:**

Agree ☐

- 2.2 Will the UCLA principal investigator specified on this application be responsible for the data coordinating center?**

- 2.3 Indicate the anticipated total number of study participants that will be enrolled across all of the institutions.**

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 1.4 - UCLA Sites or UCLA Health System Sites

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."**UCLA Sites or UCLA Health System Sites**

Please complete this section if you indicated that your study is greater than minimal risk **AND** that research activities will be performed at UCLA Sites or UCLA Health System Sites.

- 1.0 *Indicate where study procedures or data collection procedures - that are greater than minimal risk - will be conducted.**

Check all that apply:☒ Clinical & Translational Research Center (CTRC)☒ Inpatient Medical Facility☒ Outpatient Treatment Facility/Private Office☐ Public Area☐ Research Laboratory☒ Other

- 1.1 If you indicated "other", specify.**
Semel institute, 760 Westwood Plaza, Room 18-265

- 2.0 *Indicate the resources available to handle potential emergencies related to study procedures that are greater than minimal risk.**

Check all that apply:☐ This item is not applicable to this study☒ Basic Life Support (BLS) certified personnel☒ Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certified personnel☒ Code Blue Team (hospital emergency response team)☒ Emergency crash cart☒ Paramedic Emergency Response Team (911)☐ Suicide Protocol☐ Other

- 2.1 If you indicated "other", specify.**

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 2.1 - Project Identification Information

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Project Identification Information**1.0 *Type of Submission (Select one)**

- ☒ Research Study
- ☐ Application for Approval of "Research Participant Pool" or recruitment database only

2.0***Type of Submission (Select one)**

For Amendments, do not undo the response below. Undoing the response may remove sections of the original application.

- ☒ New Submission
- ☐ Transfer of Ongoing Research from Another Site from Investigator moving to UCLA. Please complete Item 2.1.

2.1 If you selected "Transfer of Ongoing Research" in Item 2.0 indicate the current status of the study and a brief summary of the work to date.

3.0 *Who developed this study?

Check all that apply:

- ☒ UCLA investigator
- ☐ Investigator from another institution
- ☐ Industry/Pharmaceutical Company
- ☐ Cooperative Group (e.g., Children's Oncology Group, AIDS Clinical Trial Group)
- ☐ Other

3.1 If other, specify.

4.0 Review For and Reliance Upon External IRBs.

***Indicate if one of the following applies to this study. (Select one)**

- ☒ None of the options apply.
- ☐ UCLA IRB to serve as IRB of record for another institution.
- ☐ UCLA to RELY on another IRB.
This includes reliance using UC MOU, CTSI, NCI, RAND, and Western IRBs.

5.0

***Is this study cancer related**, including the recruitment of individuals with cancer, collection of cancer human biological samples, specimens or data, or the recruitment of individuals because they are cancer survivors or at risk of developing cancer and/or involves gene therapy?

- ☐ Yes ☒ No

Note: If you answered "Yes", you must submit an application to the Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC) Internal Scientific Peer Review Committee (ISPRC). Click [here](#) for instructions for submitting to the ISPRC. The ISPRC approval notice or letter of exemption should be attached in Section 2.1/Item 6.2 of the webIRB application.

6.0

***Nurse Involvement:** Does this study involve any nursing time, effort, and/or resources at UCLA Health System sites, including as subjects, investigators, clinical care providers or data or specimen collectors?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 2.2 - Lay Summary and Keywords

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Lay Summary and Keywords

Please provide the following information about your study.

1.0 *Provide a brief lay summary describing this study. (limit 500 words).

We are performing a study on individuals with spinal cord injury that has resulted in reduced bladder function. We will administer a mild magnetic stimulation to the skin over the spinal cord to activate the part of the spinal cord that controls the bladder. The participants will undergo stimulation and training to move their legs for several sessions as it appears this helps activate the bladder-related parts of the spinal cord. Then subjects will be examined for bladder function using specialized equipment used for measuring urine flow and bladder pressure. 24 subjects will be enrolled in this study of 4 years. Each subject will participate in the study for 6 months where they will have twice-a-week visits and be followed for 1 year afterwards.

2.0 *List three to five keywords describing this study (separate the words with commas). The keywords may be used for identifying certain types of studies.

Spinal cord injury, bladder, stimulation

3.0 * Is this study conducted or supported by HHS (e.g., the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Control and Prevention, etc.)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

4.0 * Is this study regulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

4.1 If yes, check all that apply:

☐ Human Drugs

☒ Medical Devices

☐ Biological Products

☐ Food Additives

☐ Color Additives

☐ Other

4.1.1 If Other, describe:

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 2.3 - Methods/Procedures - Descriptors

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Methods/Procedures - Descriptors

Note: The items listed below are not an inclusive list of methods and procedures that may be used in research studies. The list only includes items that will trigger additional questions related to the research or are needed for the review process

1.0 *Indicate all that apply to this study.

- ☒ Audio, Visual or Digital Recordings
- ☐ Behavioral Observations (only applicable if you selected Exempt Category 2 in section 5.3)
- ☐ Certificate of Confidentiality
- ☐ Clinical Trial of a Drug, Biologic, Device or a Behavioral Intervention
- ☐ Community Based Research
- ☐ Controlled Substances (Schedule I or II)
- ☐ Deception or Partial Disclosure
- ☒ Devices/Diagnostics (including Humanitarian Devices - HUD)
- ☐ Drugs/Biologics/Dietary Supplements
- ☐ Expanded Access to Drug, Device or Biologic for Treatment Purposes (aka Compassionate Use, Treatment Use)
- ☐ Genetic Analyses/Genotyping
- ☐ Human Embryonic Stem Cells and/or Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells
- ☐ Human Gene Transfer/ Recombinant DNA
- ☐ Infectious Agents
- ☐ Non-FDA approved medical equipment used with UCLA hospital patients or research participants that operate under the UCLA Hospital License.
- ☒ Radiation (Standard of Care or Investigational use of radioactive materials or ionizing radiation)
- ☐ Substance Abuse Research (with Medication)
- ☐ Treatment in an Emergency Setting (with request to waive consent)
- ☐ None of the above

2.0 *Will the study require services or resources owned/rented/operated or provided by the UCLA Health System (e.g. clinic and/or hospital visit(s), professional medical services, clinical treatment, diagnostics, labs, medical supplies, etc.)?

Please direct any questions about this to the Clinical Trials Administration Office at coverageanalysis@mednet.ucla.edu.

☒ Yes ☐ No

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 2.4 - Coverage Analysis

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Coverage Analysis

1.0 *Will all protocol-required items and services that produce data for the study be funded by intramural or extramural funding/support?

- ☒ Yes - we will **not** bill participants or their insurers for any protocol-required items or services
- ☐ No - we will bill one or more protocol-required items or services to participants or their insurers
- ☐ Not Applicable – this is a non-interventional study (e.g., observational/registry/retrospective study without active treatment) that does not require additional visits, labs, items or services performed solely due to study participation

Note:

If “**Yes**” is selected to the question above, then the corresponding “Research Only” cost language in the guidance to the right should be included in the ICF, and an abbreviated coverage analysis review is indicated.

If “**No**” is selected to the question above, then the “Mixed Cost” language in the guidance to the right should be included in the ICF, and a full coverage analysis review is indicated.

If “**Not Applicable**” is selected to the question above, then coverage analysis may not be applicable, and the corresponding “All Standard of Care” cost language in the guidance on the right should be included in the ICF.

2.0 *Is your study any of the following?

- Investigator-initiated study
- Expanded Access (aka Compassionate Use or Treatment Use)
- Humanitarian use device study
- Chemo/radiation therapy study
- UCLA IRB to rely on another IRB for this study

☐ Yes ☒ No

Note: If you have selected yes, then continue with question 3.0 below.

3.0 Please upload a copy of your study protocol below:

Document Name	Document Version #
There are no items to display	

The following item pertains to investigational drugs and devices only.

4.0 If the study participant or a third party payor (i.e., medical insurance/Medicare) will be billed for investigational products (i.e., investigational drugs and/or devices), attach any documentation to support these charges including any FDA letter(s) if available.

Document Name	Document Version #
There are no items to display	

Funding and Other Study Characteristics

1.0 *Indicate the funding status for this study.

- ☒ Funded
- ☐ Application for funding is pending
- ☐ Departmental funding / Self funding / No funding

2.0 *Check all that apply:

- ☒ The research will be conducted through the UCLA Clinical and Translational Research Center (CTRC)
- ☒ The study will be supported by or conducted in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)
- ☐ The study will be supported by or conducted in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
- ☐ The study will be supported by or conducted in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)
- ☐ The study will be supported by or conducted in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education (ED)
- ☐ The study will be supported by or conducted in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Protection Agency (EPA)
- ☐ None of the above

2.1 If you selected DOD, DOE, DOJ, ED, and/or EPA support/collaboration, please provide your assurances that you will review the additional requirements for research supported by the relevant federal agency.

Agree ☒

Note: Please refer to the Federally-Supported Research section of the OHRPP guidance document: [Funding Considerations for Federally-Funded and Industry-Sponsored Human Research](#).

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 6.2 - Funding - Description

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Funding - Description

Based on the response to section 6.1/item1, this study is or will be funded. Please provide the following information.

The Office of Contract and Grant Administration (OCGA) provides the list of funding sources used by webIRB in this section. Please check your OCGA paperwork to find the correct name of the funding source(s) for this study. Identifying the right funding source is important because:

- webIRB will auto-populate the designated funding source name on the approval letter for the study. Many funding sources require an accurate identification of their name on the IRB approval letter before they will release funding;
- The Office of Research Administration uses data from webIRB to generate funding reports.

[Click here](#) for tips on how to find the funding source name in webIRB.

1.0 Identify the funding source(s).

If a specific funding source has ended, do not delete it, instead please click Update next to the funding entry and **revise item 1.9.**

Funding Source		Funding Source Information					
View	DA-ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH ACQUISITION ACTIVITY	Name of the Funding Source	DA-ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH ACQUISITION ACTIVITY				
		If other, specify	No Value Entered				
		UCLA PI named on the grant, contract, subcontract or gift:	DANIEL LU				
		Indicate the type of award:	Grant				
		Indicate the Grant Title:	Restoring Bladder Function by Spinal Cord Neuromodulation in SCI				
		Indicate the Award Number assigned by the funding source:	SCI130209				
		Indicate the description that applies to the source of funding named in the above item. If this is a subcontract, indicate the original source of funding:	Federal				
		If Other, specify	No Value Entered				
		Attach a copy of the funding proposal, subcontract, or scope of work.	<table><tr><td>Document Name</td><td>DOD-Lu-10-2013.pdf</td></tr><tr><td>Document Version #</td><td>0.01</td></tr></table>	Document Name	DOD-Lu-10-2013.pdf	Document Version #	0.01
		Document Name	DOD-Lu-10-2013.pdf				
		Document Version #	0.01				
		Does the content of this IRB application differ from the activities described in the attached funding proposal, subcontract, or scope of work?	No				
If yes, describe:	No Value Entered						
Check this box to indicate that this specific funding has ended	No Value Entered						

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Study Design

1.0 *Check all that apply to the study design.

- ☒ **Direct subject contact ONLY** – The research activities involve direct contact with study participants (e.g., collection of data or specimens in person or via internet, phone, mail, etc.)
- ☐ **No direct subject contact** – None of the research activities involve direct contact with study participants and include only analyses of data, records and/or human biological specimens (e.g., medical record or other record review, study of specimens left over from clinical procedures).
- ☐ **BOTH Direct subject contact AND No direct subject contact** – Some of the research activities involve direct contact with study participants and some of the research activities involve analyses of data, records and/or human specimens obtained without contact with participants.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 8.5 - Devices/Diagnostics and/or Humanitarian Devices

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Devices/Diagnostics and/or Humanitarian Devices

You indicated that this study includes devices/diagnostics and/or a Humanitarian Device (section 2.3/item 1.0). Please provide the following information.

1.0 For this study, list all Approved or Cleared (e.g., 510(k) or Premarket Notification (PMN); Premarket Application (PMA) devices that will be used within their approved labeling.
None

- 2.0 Complete only if one of the following apply:
- The research involves *investigational use of an unapproved device*. The device is not approved by the FDA for marketing
 - The research involves *investigational use of a marketed device*. The device will be used off label for an indication not in the approved labeling.
 - The research involves use of a *device exempt from IDE regulations per 21 CFR 812(c)*. Note: These exemptions apply in rare circumstances.
 - The research involves a *humanitarian device*.

For additional information please refer to the OHRPP guidance documents on [experimental drugs and devices](#).

Brand name of Investigational Devices Information device	
View	MagStim
Trade (Brand) name of the device:	MagStim
Common (Generic) name of the device:	Magnetic Stimulator, Transcranial Magnetic Stimulator , TMS
Manufacturer of the device (if UCLA research lab, identify the lab):	MagVenture
Source of the device:	Manufacturer
If "Other" source, specify:	No Value Entered
FDA Regulatory Status of the Device	Investigational Use of a Marketed Device: The device will be used off-label for an indication and not in the approved labeling
Investigational Use of an Unapproved Device:	
Device is Exempt from FDA approval	
Humanitarian Use Device (HUD):	

3.0 Attach a copy of the Device Brochure for each device listed above, including a picture, if available. (if applicable)

Document Name	Document Version #
X100_productsheet.pdf	0.01

4.0 *Is the investigational Device(s) controlled by the PI?
☒ Yes ☐ No

4.1 If no, indicate by whom:

5.0 *By checking this box, I provide my assurance that all the person(s) who are authorized to manage the dispensation and accountability of the device have been identified in section 1.1/item 5.0.
Agree ☒

6.0 *Describe the specific location where the device(s) will be stored and how the device(s) will be secured.
The device will be stored in a locked office.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 8.8 - Audio, Visual or Digital Recordings

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Audio, Visual or Digital Recordings

You indicated that this study includes recordings (audio or visual) (section 2.3/item 1.0). Please provide the following information.

1.0 *Who will transcribe the research tapes/recordings?

Check as many as apply:

☒ Members of the research team

☐ Persons outside the research team

2.0 *Is the use of recordings an optional part of the research?

☐ Yes ☒ No

3.0

*** Will individual study participants be able to review, edit, and erase the tapes/recordings of their research participation?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

3.1 If no, provide an ethical and scientific justification for NOT allowing study participants to review, edit, and erase the tapes of their research participation.

4.0 Transcription of Research Tapes/Recordings**4.1 * Type of media (Check as many as apply):**

☐ CD ROM

☐ DVD

☒ Digital Files

☐ VHS tape

☐ Cassette or microcassette

☐ Handwritten files

☐ Other

4.2 * Method of transmission (Check as many as apply):

☐ Courier or mail with delivery confirmation

☐ Posted to a secure website

☒ Email

☐ Other

☐ Not Applicable

4.3 * Transcription Service (Check as many as apply):

☐ Transcription service secures tapes in a secure locked area

☐ Transcription(s) sign confidentiality agreements

☐ Transmission of voice files and text files is encrypted and password protected

☐ Other

☒ Not Applicable

4.3.1 If you selected "other" for any/all of the above items, describe.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 8.11 - Radiation

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Radiation

Based on the response to section 2.3/item 1.0, you are seeking approval from MRSC committee. Please complete the following items.

1.0 * Are the radiological procedures standard of care?

Note: Please review the guidance to the right before completing this question.

☐ Yes ☒ No

- 1.1 If Yes, please provide the following information for EACH procedure:
- a. Type of standard of care radiological procedure.
 - b. Maximum number of times a subject will undergo this procedure in one year.
 - c. Building and room number where this procedure will be performed.

The MRSC review process cannot begin until all of the above-referenced information has been provided in the field below.

NOTE: If procedures include a radiopharmaceutical then an Investigational New Drug (IND) or Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) must be described in Section 8.6.
Urodynamics under fluoroscopy of the upper pelvic region to visualize bladder. 7 procedures per year of less than 2 minutes of beam-on time per procedure.

Air kerma values for
1:fluoroscopy-guided procedures: 1.38 mGy
2. Peak skin dose: 2.18 mGy
3. Effective dose: 0.07 mGy
4. Maximum expected air kerma value for the urinary bladder imaging session: 4.0 mGy
Procedure will be performed at: 200 Medical Plaza, Suites 140, Peter Morton Medical Building, Los Angeles, CA 90095

7 total procedures at 1 per month for 6 months (0,1,2,3,4,5 and 6 months)

2.0 * Will this study involve radiological procedures beyond the standard of care?

Note: If you have questions about what "beyond standard of care" means or questions about the forms to use in 2.1 below, or need help or additional information, please click [here](#).

☒ Yes ☐ No

Important Note: If your study involves beyond standard of care radiological procedures that have not changed since previous approval through the MRSC/RDRC CARE system, upload the previously completed eight-page CARE Application in 2.2 instead of Forms A, B and/or C.

- 2.1 If Yes and this is an *initial submission or an amendment involving changes to radiological procedures*, check all applicable administrations of radiation.

- ☒ Radiation Producing Machines - Form A required. Click **HERE** to download form.
- ☐ Radiation Therapy - Form B required. Click **HERE** to download form.
- ☐ Radioactive Materials - Form C required. Click **HERE** to download form.

- 2.2 Upload Forms A, B AND/OR C and other supporting documents.

Document Name	Document Version #
Form A Rad Pro Mach - WebIRB.pdf	0.01

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 9.2 - Information about Study Data

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Information about Study Data

This information is needed to determine how you will best protect the confidentiality of data.

1.0 *Indicate all that apply to the study data.

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Obtained from a medical or clinical record
- ☐ Created or collected as part of health or mental health care
- ☐ Used to make healthcare or mental healthcare decisions and/or provided to other healthcare professionals
- ☒ Research data will be entered into the participants' medical or clinical record
- ☐ **None of the above**

2.0

***Is it reasonably foreseeable that the study will collect information that State or Federal law requires to be reported to other officials (e.g., child or elder abuse), ethically requires action (e.g., suicidal ideation), or is a reportable disease?**

☐ Yes ☒ **No**

2.1 If yes, explain below and include a discussion of the reporting requirements in the consent document:

3.0 *Indicate if any of the following are being obtained and used without any direct contact with study participants.

- ☐ Records (Not medical)
- ☐ Human biological specimens
- ☒ **None of the Above**

4.0 *Indicate all identifiers that may be accessed or included in the research records for the study:

- ☒ Names
- ☒ Dates
- ☐ Age (if over 89 years)
- ☒ Postal Address
- ☒ Phone Numbers
- ☐ Fax Numbers
- ☐ E-Mail Address
- ☒ Social Security Number
- ☒ Medical Record Number
- ☐ Health Plan Numbers
- ☐ Account Numbers
- ☐ License/Certificate Numbers
- ☐ Vehicle ID Numbers
- ☐ Device Identifiers/Serial Numbers
- ☐ Web URLs
- ☐ IP Address Numbers
- ☐ Biometric Identifiers (including finger and voice prints)
- ☐ Facial Photos/Images
- ☐ Any Other Unique Identifier (this does not include the code assigned by the investigator to identify the data)
- ☐ **None of the above**

4.1 If social security numbers will be collected explain why they are necessary, how they will be used, how they will be

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 9.2a - Privacy and Confidentiality

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Privacy and Confidentiality

Important Notes:

- **Privacy is about people.** Privacy refers to a person's wish to control the access of others to themselves.
- **Confidentiality is about data.** Confidentiality refers to the researcher's plan to handle, manage, and disseminate the participant's identifiable private information.

See OHRPP Quick Guide: Protecting Privacy and Maintaining Confidentiality

1.0

***Privacy: How will the investigator maintain privacy in the research setting(s)?** (e.g., interviewing participant in a room or area where conversations cannot be overheard by others, or conducting medical procedures in an examination room, or behind a curtain in an emergency room).

Patient will be consented in the clinic in a private room, behind closed doors. Subsequent testing will be conducted in a clinical research laboratory space in UCLA CTRC.

2.0

***Confidentiality: If the protocol will collect and maintain identifiable data, explain how the planned safeguards to maintain confidentiality of identifiable data and data security are appropriate to the degree of risk from disclosure.**

Note: Other sections of the application (e.g., Sections 9.3, 9.3a, 9.4, 9.5, and 15.3) will request specifications such as identification of persons who will have access to code keys or measures to comply with HIPAA requirements.

All data collected will be placed on password protected files on an encoded hard drive. The data will be de-identified and coded key placed in a password protected file and on a separate encoded hard drive. The hard drives will be placed in a locked cabinet in the office of the PI in CHS, the door to the office is locked with only access from the PI, CHS is located behind security access points during off hours.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 9.3 - Data Security

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Data Security

You indicated that the study team will have access to personally identifiable or coded information (Section 9.2/item 5). Please complete the following items.

1.0 *Do you agree to follow the OHRPP Data Security in Research guidance and procedures?

☒ Yes

☐ I have an alternate equally effective plan (Note: The plan must be attached to item #2.1)

2.0 *Do you have a data security plan for this study? (Note: a plan is not required for all studies; it may be recommended in some instance).

☐ Yes ☒ No

2.1 If yes, attach it here:

Document Name

Document Version #

There are no items to display

3.0 *Indicate all that apply to personally identifiable information or codes during conduct of the study:

☒ The data and/or specimens will be coded

☐ The personal identifying information will be removed and destroyed

☐ Personally identifying information will be maintained with the data and/or specimens

3.1 If you indicated that the personal identifying information will be removed or destroyed or that the data/specimens will be coded, provide the following information:

- o The process for removing and destroying the personal identifying information or for coding the information, and
- o Indicate who will perform the task

Personally identifying information will be coded. Coding will be performed by a random number generator and code assigned to study participants. The coded key will be kept on a printout in a locked file cabinet behind a locked office door in CHS.

4.0 *Will coded or personally identifiable data be collected, transmitted or stored via the internet?

☐ Yes ☒ No

4.1 If yes, indicate all that apply:

☐ A mechanism such as Survey Monkey, Zoomerang, or an e-mail anonymizing service will be used to strip off the IP addresses for data submitted via e-mail.

☐ The data will be encrypted.

☐ A firewall will be used to protect the research computer from unauthorized access.

☐ Controlled access privileges will be used on the hardware storing the data.

☐ Other.

4.1.1 If you indicated "Other", describe:

5.0 *Provide your assurances that if there is a data security breach for this study, the PI will notify the IRB and your department's IT Compliance Coordinator.

Agree ☒

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 9.4 - Data Security Plan - During the Study

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."**Data Security Plan - During the Study**

You indicated that data and/or specimens for this study will be coded (Section 9.3/item 3). Please complete the following information.

1.0

During the study indicate **how data will be stored and secured** including paper records, electronic files, audio/video tapes, specimens. Specify how the **code key** will be securely maintained, as applicable.

Check all that apply:

1.1***Electronic Data**

- ☒ Encryption or password protection software will be used
- ☐ Secure network server will be used to store data
- ☐ Stand alone desktop computer will be used to store data (not connected to server/internet)
- ☐ A contracted outside vendor will store the code key. The vendor will have a business associate agreement with UCLA.
- ☐ Other
- ☐ **Not Applicable**

1.2***Hardcopy Data, Recordings and Specimens**

- ☒ Locked file cabinet or locked room with limited access by authorized personnel
- ☐ Locked lab/refrigerator/freezer with limited access by authorized personnel
- ☐ The code key will be kept in a locked file in a locked room
- ☐ The coded data and/or specimens will be maintained in a different room
- ☐ Other
- ☐ **Not Applicable**

1.3

If you indicated "Other" in item 1.1 or 1.2 above, describe here.

2.0

***By checking this box, I provide my assurance that all the person(s) who will have access to the code key have been identified in section 1.1 or section 1.1a.**

Agree ☒

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 9.5 - Data Security Plan

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Data Security Plan

You indicated that the study will have access to personally identifiable or coded information (Section 9.2/item 5). Please complete the following items:

- 1.0 *After the study is completed**, indicate how the data codes and/or personal identifying information will be handled.

Check all that apply:

- ☒ All data files will be stripped of personal identifiers and/or the key to the code destroyed.
- ☐ All specimens will be stripped of personal identifiers and/or the key to the code destroyed.
- ☐ Personal identifiers and/or codes linking the data and/or specimens to personal identifiers will be maintained for future research.
- ☐ Audio or Video recordings will be transcribed and then destroyed or modified to eliminate the possibility that study participants could be identified.
- ☐ Photos or Images will be modified to eliminate the possibility that study participants could be identified.
- ☐ Restricted use data will be destroyed or returned to the source.

- 1.1 If you indicated that personal identifiers will be maintained for future research, provide the following information:**
- a) How the information will be securely handled and stored**
 - b) assure confidentiality, and**
 - c) who will have access to the identifiers and/or codes.**

- 2.0 Describe any additional steps, if any, to be taken to assure that the subjects' identities and any personal identifying information are kept confidential.**

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 9.8 - Data and/or Specimens for Possible Future Use

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Data and/or Specimens for Possible Future Use

You indicated that prospectively collected data and/or specimens would be stored for future use (Section 9.2/item 5.1). Please provide the following information.

- 1.0 *Specify what information directly or indirectly linked to the subject will be provided with data and/or specimens to other investigators.**

Check all that apply:

- ☒ No subject identifiers (The data/specimens are anonymous; no one including the investigator could identify the person from whom the materials were gathered.)
- ☐ The data will be coded (A code links the data/specimens to the study participants. A key to the code exists.)
- ☐ Personal Identifying Information
- ☐ **Not applicable, the data will not be shared outside the study team.**

- 2.0 Distribution Rules: Describe the criteria used to determine the adequacy of requests to obtain data and/or specimens (e.g., the type of researchers that will be eligible to receive data):**

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 10.1 - Study Summary - Research Study

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Study Summary - Research Study

1.0

Study Materials: As applicable to this study, attach the following:

- **Protocol, Dissertation Proposal or Study Plan**
- **Preliminary Data**
- **Surveys, Questionnaires or other instruments to be used with study participants**
- **References**

Document Name	Document Version #
Procedures_Clean.docx	0.01
Procedures_Redlined.docx	0.01
References Cited DoD Bladder.docx	0.01

2.0

***Specific Aims:** Indicate the purpose of the research, specifying the problems and/or hypotheses to be addressed.

Specific Aim 1: Determine the optimal stimulation parameters to enable micturition in SCI subjects. We hypothesize that optimal spinal cord stimulation parameters exist that are selective or specific for micturition. We will test combinations of spinal cord levels (T10-L4, coccyx levels) and stimulation frequency (1-30 Hz) administered twice weekly for 24 weeks. A machine learning algorithm will guide subsequent stimulation parameters (Aim 3). Subjects will be evaluated at each session for urine flow, volume, detrusor pressure, and self-assessments of quality of life and urinary function. Formal urodynamics will be tested monthly and at the conclusion of the 24-week study.

Specific Aim 2: Determine the minimum training conditions to enable micturition in SCI subjects. We hypothesize that the naïve post-injury spinal cord requires some minimal stimulation quality and duration to re-awaken dormant micturition neural circuitries. Using the optimum stimulation parameters determined in Aim 1, we will test a pre-training regimen in naïve SCI subjects. In addition to determining the minimum number of sessions, we will examine the types of locomotor training that will best enable micturition function, administered twice weekly for 24 weeks. Assessments will be as in Aim 1.

Specific Aim 3: Application of machine learning strategies for determining the optimal stimulation and training parameters to induce micturition in SCI subjects. We hypothesize that existing machine learning techniques for locomotion can be adapted to determine the optimal stimulation parameters for micturition. Data from each session will be added to a machine learning algorithm database to determine the most effective parameters for the most recent session and guide stimulation parameters for subsequent sessions. At the conclusion of this Aim, the most effective conditions for urination will be determined and used in the clinical trial.

Specific Aim 4: Application of the optimal stimulation and training parameters for inducing micturition in SCI subjects in a pilot clinical trial. This Aim will combine the optimal stimulation and training parameters from Aims 1-3. In this Aim we will test the hypothesis that an optimized stimulation paradigm can improve micturition function in naïve, SCI subjects. 12 subjects will be tested twice weekly for 24 weeks. Urodynamics and self-assessments will be as Aim 1.

3.0

***Background and Significance:** Provide a summary of the background for this study and explain how it will contribute to existing knowledge.

For greater than minimal risk biomedical studies, include preliminary data. If necessary, attach in Item 1.0 graphs or tables used to convey information. If there no preliminary data are available, briefly indicate why this proposed study is a reasonable starting point.

Little progress has been made in developing any intervention that will enhance bladder function after a SCI. However our team has performed a systematic progression of experiments in animals and patients showing that several forms of electrical spinal cord stimulation can detect and improve spared function (Table 1, Figure 1). We have implanted an epidural stimulation (EDS) electrode array over the lumbosacral spinal cord in 4 human subjects with a motor complete SCI. Each has gained some voluntary control of urinary voiding in the absence of EDS (1, 2). Furthermore, we have preliminary data showing that single-electrode TESS or EDS of the cervical spinal cord can improve fine motor function of the upper limb in human subjects with incomplete quadriplegia. The critical question here is whether TESS can be used to enable spared function of sacral neuromotor networks, i.e., neural networks related to bladder function in animals and humans (3-6). The potential impact of these therapeutic interventions on the lives of individuals with urinary incontinence cannot be overestimated (7, 8). Development of magnetic stimulation to activate spared, but silent, spinal cord pathways related to bladder function in humans could represent the beginning of a paradigm shift in the rehabilitative approach to bladder incontinence as a result of SCI and potentially other neurologic injuries or stroke (9-12). It could also provide new pathways toward more advanced technologies to further enable more potential success in improving bladder function.

As we have observed with studies of the lumbosacral spinal cord in completely paralyzed SCI subjects, future development of technical capabilities to use neuromodulation of the lumbosacral spinal cord for evaluation and enabling of spared function will undoubtedly enhance our ability to improve therapies for bladder function after paralysis. By discovering spared function and revealing the potential for treatments, the cost-savings from the proposed translational studies could include reduced assistive daily care costs, increased employment, and improved quality of life—especially for incomplete SCI patients who account for the majority

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 11.1 - Characteristics of the Study Population

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."**Characteristics of the Study Population**

- 1.0 ***Is this an observational or ethnographic study for which the number of participants observed or interviewed cannot be determined in advance.**

☐ Yes ☒ No

- 2.0 **If you answered "no" to item 1.0, indicate the maximum number of study participants you hope to enroll:**

24

- 3.0 **How many participants do you expect you will need to recruit, consent and/or screen to meet the target number above?**

48

- 4.0 ***Indicate the specific inclusion criteria for enrollment of each of the groups of research participants in this study. If there are any inclusion criteria based on *gender, pregnancy/childbearing potential, race, ethnicity or language spoken*, explain the nature of and scientific rationale for the inclusions.**

1. Male 18-75 years; This is required to have one urethral anatomy. Secondly, more males have spinal cord injury, especially in veteran populations.
2. At least 1 year post-injury;
3. Non-progressive SCI at C2-T8 (non-conus injury);
4. Motor Complete ASIA (A, B, C or D);
5. Neurogenic bladder requiring clean intermittent straight catheterization;
6. Able to attend twice weekly testing sessions for 6 months.
7. Have intact lower extremity anatomy and able to use lower extremity for assistive standing and stepping. This is required to assess the quality of motor-function-activating spinal cord stimulation.

- 5.0 ***Indicate the specific exclusion criteria for each of the groups of research participants in this study. If there are any exclusion criteria based on *gender, pregnancy/childbearing potential, race, ethnicity or language spoken*, explain the nature of and scientific rationale for the exclusions.**

1. History of autonomic dysreflexia;
2. Ventilator dependency;
3. Musculoskeletal dysfunction, unhealed fracture, pressure ulcer, active infection;
4. Clinically significant depression or ongoing drug abuse;
5. Received botox injection, or bladder surgery (suprapubic access, Brindley procedure, etc.); 6. Prostatic hypertrophy or bladder outlet disorder;
7. Cardiopulmonary disease that precludes lower extremity training or rehabilitation.

- 6.0 ***How (chart review, additional tests/exams for study purposes, etc.), when and by whom will eligibility be determined?**

We will recruit subjects who have sustained a cervical SCI at least one year prior to enrollment to participate in the proposed experiments; specifically, individual subjects with non-progressive SCI at C2-T8 (non-conus injury), classified as motor complete (A or B) or incomplete (C or D) on the ASIA SCI scale; specifically SCI subjects with neurogenic bladder who are performing urethral catheterization procedures for bladder care will be recruited. With these criteria, we are screening for subjects with hypertonic or hyperreflexive neurogenic bladder and are excluding subjects with areflexive or hypotonic bladder (conus lesions). The reason for this is that our strategy depends on an intact spinal cord-bladder circuitry.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 11.2 - Characteristics of Study Population

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Characteristics of Study Population

1.0 *Indicate the age range of the study participants.

Check all that apply:

- ☐ 0 to 6 years
- ☐ 7 to 11 years
- ☐ 12 to 17 years
- ☐ 17 or younger **in California** who can consent for themselves - see note below
- ☐ 17 or younger **outside California** who can consent for themselves - see note below
- ☒ 18 years or older

NOTE:

- For additional information on minors **in California** who are permitted to consent for themselves please refer to the section "Legal Exceptions Permitting Certain Minors to Consent" in the OHRPP Guidance document, [Child Assent and Permission by Parents or Guardians](#)
- For additional information on minors **outside of California** who are permitted to consent for themselves please refer to the section "Exceptions Outside of California" in the OHRPP Guidance document, [Child Assent and Permission by Parents or Guardians](#)

2.0 *Indicate if any of the following populations/specimens will be specifically recruited/obtained for the study.

- ☒ Adults who are competent to give informed consent
- ☐ Adults unable to give informed consent
- ☐ Adults with diminished capacity to consent
- ☐ Fetal Tissue
- ☐ Neonates
- ☐ Participants Unable to Read, Speak, or understand English
- ☐ Pregnant Women/Fetuses
- ☐ Prisoners
- ☐ UCLA Faculty/Staff
- ☐ UCLA Students
- ☐ Wards
- ☐ Unknown/Not Applicable

3.0

* Is it possible that there may be non-English speakers enrolled in this study or children whose parents are non-English speaking?

- ☒ Yes ☐ No

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 14.1 - Risks & Benefits

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Risks & Benefits**Benefits****1.0 *Are there any potential direct benefits (physical, psychological, social or other) to study participants?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

1.1 If yes, describe.

Potential Benefits of the Proposed Research to the Subjects and Others: There may be no benefit. Exercise and rehabilitation has been considered beneficial for people with SCI who are confined to a wheelchair, as immobilization can contribute to secondary pathologies such as muscle contractures, decreased cardiovascular health, pressure sores, and muscle atrophy. Because individuals respond differently, it cannot be predetermined if this research will be beneficial to a specific type of subject. Potential benefits may include: increase in cardiovascular fitness, decrease in spasticity, and/or an improved ability to utilize lower extremity function.

2.0 *Describe the potential benefits to society including the importance of the knowledge to be gained.

Importance of the Knowledge to Be Gained: The proposed experiments will demonstrate whether a new strategy of neuromodulation via non-invasive spinal cord stimulation can be used to improve bladder function. Positive demonstration of the proof-of-principle of the neuromodulatory strategy would almost certainly result in significant improvements in the quality of life after a spinal cord injury and could significantly reduce the cost of healthcare for these individuals by making them more independent. The knowledge gained also will demonstrate whether a medical stimulation device that is presently approved for other neuromotor dysfunctions can be used to improve bladder function. In addition we will learn whether a newly developed technology, transcutaneous stimulation, can be used to neuromodulate the spinal cord to improve bladder function. To date, there has been virtually no progress in improving bladder function after spinal cord injuries. The potential of the proposed studies are extremely positive. Given the magnitude of the scientific evidence from which the neuromodulatory strategy has evolved combined with our preliminary evidence in humans and rats, the potential gain that can be realized by so many impaired individuals given the modest total cost to be incurred in this grant cannot be denied.

Risks**3.0 *Indicate the potential risks/discomforts, if any, associated with each intervention or research procedure.**

Additionally discuss any measures that will be taken to minimize risks. If data are available, estimate (a) the probability that a given harm may occur, (b) its severity, and (c) its potential reversibility. The information provided should be reflected in risks section of the informed consent documents.

If this is an exempt study and there are no risks, indicate N/A. Otherwise, please see the help text.

Risk from Transcutaneous Stimulation: The transcutaneous stimulation device is noninvasive and procedure has been approved by the UCLA Institutional Review Board (IRB#11-001720). There is a minor risk of discomfort during the stimulation procedure that stops after stimulation. There is also a minor risk of skin irritation with the adhesive electrode during stimulation. If this occurs, another site can be used, or testing postponed until skin heals.

Risk from Interventions and Experimental Procedures: Because subjects must meet the criteria listed above, we expect all subjects to be in good health. The studies described may involve the following physical risks and/or discomforts: 1) increased respiration or shortness of breath; 2) increased heart rate; 3) muscle and joint soreness; 4) lowering or elevation of blood pressure; 5) dizziness; 6) skin irritation from recording electrodes, or hand placements of trainers; 7) skin abrasion from hand placements of trainers; and 8) muscle strain or joint sprain from movement, or from the force exerted by the trainers.

Most subjects will have increased respiration and heart rate due to an increase in activity. However, we do not expect the increase in respiration and heart rate to be greater than what is normally experienced during regular exercise. Many SCI subjects will likely sustain skin irritation from the recording electrodes, or hand placements of the trainers. These conditions are considered to be minimal risks and are reversible. There is some chance that subjects may sustain muscle and joint soreness, lowering or elevation of blood pressure, dizziness, or skin abrasion from hand placements of the trainers. If these events occur the experiment would cease immediately. These conditions are considered to be minimal risks and are reversible.

It is highly unlikely that a subject would feel chest pain or high blood pressure would occur that did not resolve within several minutes. These events have not occurred in our past experience. Blood pressure will be monitored throughout the testing session at 1-5 minute intervals by arm blood pressure cuff. However, if this did occur the individual would be immediately transported to the University of California, Los Angeles Emergency Unit and Drs. Lu, and/or Denis, and/or Niu notified. It is also highly unlikely that a subject would suffer a muscle strain, joint sprain, or fracture from upper extremity physical therapy. These conditions are

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 15.1 - Data & Safety Monitoring Plan

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Data & Safety Monitoring Plan

1.0 ***Is a Data and Safety Monitoring Plan (DSMP) required by the funding agency or other entity?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 15.2 - Data & Safety Monitoring Plan (continued)

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Data & Safety Monitoring Plan (continued)**Important Note:**

All interventional studies involving more than minimal risk must include a Data and Safety Monitoring Plan (DSMP). A DSMP is a plan established to assure that each research study has a mechanism for appropriate oversight and monitoring of the conduct of the study to ensure the safety of participants and the validity and integrity of the data. The DSMP should indicate specifically whether or not there will be a formal Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) or Data Monitoring Committee (DMC).

Most, but not all studies (i.e., non-interventional studies) undergoing full board review will require a DSMP. You will need a DSMP if any of the following apply:

1. This is a Phase I, II or III clinical trial
2. This is an investigator initiated trial (Section 2.1/item 3.0)
3. This study involves treatment in an emergency setting (Section 2.3/item 1.0)
4. A Data/Safety Monitoring Plan is required by the funding agency (Section 15.1/item 1.0)
5. This study is greater than minimal risk (Section 1.1b/item 1.0)

1.0 *Indicate who will be responsible for overseeing the study safety. Check all that apply.

- ☐ The Principal Investigator
- ☒ Designee of the Principal Investigator
- ☐ The DSMP includes at least one person who is not associated with the study
- ☐ A formally constituted Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB)
- ☐ Medical monitor designated by the sponsor
- ☐ Other

1.1 If you indicated that a designee would be responsible for overseeing the study safety, or that the DSMP would include at least one person not associated with the study, provide the name(s) of this individual (s). Also, provide a brief explanation of why this person(s) would be appropriate in this role(s).

Dr. Daniel Denis and Niu will be responsible for overseeing the study safety, along with the External Research Monitor, Victor Chang, MD.

The Research Monitor, Victor Chang, MD (Director, Spine Research, Department of Neurosurgery, Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, West Bloomfield, Michigan) is responsible to oversee the safety of the research and report observations/findings to the IRB of Record or a designated official. The Research Monitor will review all unanticipated problems involving risk to volunteers or others associated with the protocol and provide an unbiased written report of the event to the IRB of Record. The Research Monitor may discuss the research protocol with the investigators, interview human subjects, and consult with others outside of the study about the research. The Research Monitor shall have authority to stop the research protocol in progress, remove individual human subjects from the study, and take whatever steps are necessary to protect the safety and well-being of human subjects until the IRB can assess the monitor's report. The Research Monitor is responsible for promptly reporting their observations and findings to the IRB.

1.2 If you indicated "other," describe or indicate where the information can be found in the attached protocol.**2.0 *Provide your assurance that information about serious, unanticipated problems related to the study (e.g., adverse events, incidents and violations) will be reported to the IRB within the time frames specified by the Summary Sheet of Reporting Requirements.**

Agree ☒

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 16.1 - Payment, Costs, and Injury

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Payment, Costs, and Injury**1.0 *Indicate what the participants will receive for their participation in the study.****Check all that apply.**

- ☐ No payment will be provided
- ☒ University check
- ☐ Course Credit
- ☐ Cash
- ☐ Gift Cards/Bruincard Deposit
- ☐ Non-Monetary Gifts or Services
- ☐ Other (including vouchers for parking)

1.1 If you selected Non-Monetary Gifts or Services or Other, describe:

1.2 If you selected *Cash* and/or *Gift Cards/Bruincard Deposit* please specify the estimated total amount of money you will require to pay all participants during the length of the entire study. This information is required by UCLA Business and Finance Services (BFS), the office that will provide the cash/gift cards for payment.

2.0 If study participants will receive financial or other payment for their participation in the study, please provide the following information:

- If applicable, the amount each participant will receive and the payment schedule to be followed including whether partial payment will be provided when the participant does not complete the study.
- If there are different plans for different populations or sub-studies, specify the groups and describe the plans.
- If families or children will be involved in the research, clarify how the payments, items or services will be apportioned.

Subjects will receive \$35 per visit, two visits per week, for either 24 or 27 weeks.

Partial payment will be provided when the participant does not complete the study.

3.0 *Will subjects incur any financial obligations from participation in the study?

☐ Yes ☒ **No**

3.1 If yes, describe:

4.0 *Indicate below that you are familiar with UCLA policy related to treatment and compensation for injury and that you will use in the consent form for this study the appropriate UC required statement describing "Treatment and Compensation for Injury." [Click here](#) to access the UCLA policy: Treatment and Compensation for Research Related Injury.

Note: *Select **Not Applicable** if study is minimal risk.*

- ☒ Agree
- ☐ Not Applicable

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 17.1 - HIPAA Authorization

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

HIPAA Authorization

According to your responses to section 9.2/item 1.0, this study uses protected health information. Please provide the following information.

1.0 *Indicate all that apply to use of or disclosure of PHI in this study:

- ☒ All UC participants will sign a UC HIPAA Research Authorization for Release of Personal Health Information for Research.
- ☒ **Another Institutions' Healthcare Authorization** for Release of Health Information will be used **or a waiver** for release of health information will be granted **from another Institution**.
- ☒ **A Waiver of HIPAA Research Authorization** is requested for **screening** using UC medical records. I assure that the PHI collected for this study will not be reused or disclosed, except as indicated in this application.
- ☐ **A Total Waiver of HIPAA Research Authorization** is requested for the entire study. I assure that the PHI collected for this study from UC records will not be reused or disclosed, except as indicated in this application.
- ☐ **Limited Data Set with a Data Use Agreement** will be obtained from UC medical records. I assure that I will follow the data security plan outlined in this application to protect the identifiers from improper use or disclosure.
- ☐ **None of the above. This study will be conducted outside the United States**

2.0

***Indicate to whom or where you will grant access to personal identifying information (including PHI) as part of the study process:**

- ☒ There is no plan to share identifiers outside the study team
- ☐ The study sponsor; on site only (if there is more than one study sponsor, specify below).
- ☐ A foreign country or countries
- ☐ Other

2.1 If you checked "other", "a foreign country or countries", or if "there is more than one sponsor", specify.

3.0 *The investigator's agreement is needed to the following:

- The protected health information requested is the minimum necessary to meet the research objectives
- The protected health information that is obtained as part of this study will not be used or disclosed to any other person other than study personnel or to the parties listed in item Section 17.1/item 2, except as required by law.
- Study Sponsors will **not** be provided with personal identifying information (including PHI) to take from the study site at any time, including the end of the study.
- Data and specimens shared with outside entities, such as study sponsors, will be coded or de-identified.

Agree ☒

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 17.2 - HIPAA - Waiver of Authorization

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

HIPAA - Waiver of Authorization

According to your responses to Section 17.1/item 1, a waiver of authorization is requested. Please provide the following information.

In addition to the information that will be requested later in this application for a waiver of informed consent, HIPAA requires the following information for a waiver of authorization:

1.0 *Indicate why the research could not be practicably conducted without access to and use of the protected health information.

Check all that apply.

- ☒ The PHI is needed to identify potential participants with a specific medical condition
- ☒ It would not be feasible to individually contact the large numbers of potential subjects in the study
- ☐ It would not be possible to locate many of the individuals whose records would be used for the study
- ☐ Many of the individuals, whose records would be used for the study, are now deceased
- ☐ Other

1.1 If you checked "other", specify.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 18.1 - Identification/Recruitment Methods

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Identification/Recruitment Methods

1.0 *How will you identify and/or recruit participants for this study.

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Advertisements/Flyers/Information Sheet/Internet Postings
- ☒ Direct recruitment of potential study participants (e.g., physicians talking with their own or clinic patients about the study, contact between the study team and potential subjects in person, on the phone or on the internet, etc.)
- ☐ Random or Other Probability Sampling
- ☐ Recruitment Letters/Emails
- ☒ Referrals (e.g., referrals from non-investigator healthcare providers, snowball sampling, participants referring other participants, etc.)
- ☒ Review of medical records to identify potential research participants
- ☐ Review of publicly available records
- ☐ Review of other records
- ☐ Participant pool for which potential research participants have given permission for future contact
- ☐ Potential Study Participants are identified from another IRB approved study or IRB approved screening protocol
- ☐ Other

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 18.2 - Recruitment Methods

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Recruitment Methods

- 1.0 Please upload copies of your recruitment materials below. This includes advertisements, flyers, internet postings, recruitment scripts and letters/emails.**

Document Name

Document Version

There are no items to display

Ads/Flyers/Info Sheets/Internet Postings

- 2.0 If you have indicated that study participants will be recruited with advertisements/flyers (Section 18.1/Item 1.0), please indicate the type of media that will be used (e.g., newspaper, radio, internet, etc.) and/or where information will be posted or distributed.**

Direct Recruitment

- 3.0 If you have indicated that participants will be recruited through direct contact (Section 18.1/Item 1.0), please provide the following information:**

- A description of how, when, and where initial contact would be made (e.g. in a public setting, in a waiting room, via a phone call, via a letter, via the internet, etc.)
- If applicable to the study, indicate how the potential research participant's privacy will be maintained.
- Who will make the contact (e.g. the investigator, a patient's physician, etc.)

Recruitment of individuals with SCI will be from VA Greater Los Angeles, VA Long Beach, and UCLA Health Care System. Additional referrals will be generated from treating physiatrists, urologist, neurologists, and other clinicians at referral sites.

Initial contact will be made in person by a potential participant's physiatrist, urologist, neurologists or other clinician during an office visit. The potential participant will be provided with contact information, e.g. phone number, email address, of the PI, Dr. Lu. Once Dr. Lu has been contacted, he and his staff will schedule a visit by the potential subject for potential consent and enrollment.

- 3.1 If you will be directly recruiting potential participants who are your patients, students, laboratory workers or any others with whom you have a relationship of authority or unequal power, describe what measures you will put in place to avoid those approached from feeling pressured or unduly influenced to participate in the study.**

Recruitment Letters/Emails

- 4.0 If you have indicated that recruitment letters will be distributed to participants (Section 18.1/item 1.0), please indicate who will send out the recruitment letter (i.e. will it be the investigator or other persons who have authorized access to the information), how inquiries will be handled, and if there will be follow-up contacts.**

Referrals

- 5.0 If you have indicated that study participants will be identified from referrals (Section 18.1/item 1.0), please indicate the source of the referral (e.g., friends, other participants, healthcare providers) and how the referral will be elicited.**

The SCI patients with neurogenic bladder with the above inclusion/exclusion criteria will be identified by their treating physician at any referral site, or by the SCI database at UCLA. Recruitment of subjects will be generated from database of SCI subjects in UCLA Health Care System. Additional referrals will be generated from treating physiatrists, urologist, neurologists, and other clinicians at referral sites. Subjects who may qualify will be informed about the study by their treating physicians and given contact information for the PI, to call if they are interested. If they meet chart-review based inclusion and exclusion criteria they will be invited to attend an appointment for informed consent before further procedures are conducted.

Once the patients have been identified, they will be given the opportunity to meet with the principal investigator in order to discuss the purpose and the procedures involved in the trial. Dr. Lu will complete a chart review along with medical history and neurological examination to determine the medical eligibility for each SCI subject. Additionally, Dr. Lu will determine study eligibility based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria. Experimental testing and training interventions will be initiated after the subject has been evaluated and determined to be in compliance with the selection criteria. The subjects will not be concurrently enrolled in any other experimental studies. All subjects will sign an informed consent that has been approved by the UCLA Institutional Review Board

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 18.7 - Review of Medical Records

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Review of Medical Records

- 1.0 *You have indicated that potential research participants will be identified from medical records (Section 18.1/item 1). Indicate the specific records to be reviewed and the information that will be obtained to identify potential participants for this study.**

Clinic records of UCLA spine surgeons will be assessed for patients with SCI. After identification of the subject with SCI, the records will be assessed for satisfaction of enrollment criteria. If the enrollment criteria are satisfied, the patient may be contacted for enrollment.

- 1.1 If you have a data sheet summarizing the information that will be obtained from the records, you can upload it here instead of listing the information above.**

Document Name

Document Version #

There are no items to display

Federal and State Regulations require that the IRB review the information below to determine if a waiver of consent and authorization is appropriate for use of medical record information for recruitment purposes.

- 2.0 *Do you assure the following?**

- The information that will be reviewed is the minimal necessary to identify potential research participants for this research.
- The information that will be obtained for identification of participants will not be reused or disclosed outside the research team, except as required by law.
- All study personnel will comply with HIPAA regulations.
- Review of the medical records will not result in greater than minimal risk by taking appropriate precautions to protect the confidentiality of the information.

Agree ☒

- 3.0 *Indicate why the potential study participants' rights and welfare would not be adversely affected by waiving consent to review their medical records.**

Check all that apply.

☒ Precautions will be taken on protect the confidentiality of the research participants

☒ The information from the medical records will not be used in any way other than to identify potential research participants

☐ Other

- 3.1 If other, describe**

- 4.0 *Indicate why the research could not practicably be carried out without a waiver of consent.**

Check all that apply.

☒ The identities of the potential study participants who would meet the criteria for this study would not be known without access to their medical records

☐ Other

- 4.1 If other, specify**

- 5.0 NON-UC INSTITUTION(S) / AGENCY(IES) HIPAA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

If your research will involve access, use, or disclosure of PHI held by a non-UC institution/agency, please provide your assurances that you will comply with that (those) institution(s)/agency(ies)' HIPAA policies and procedures.

Agree ☒

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 19.1 - Eligibility Screening

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Eligibility Screening

1.0 ***Will you be conducting a preliminary assessment with potential research participants to determine study eligibility during the recruitment process?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 19.2 - Eligibility Screening - Plans

This view has been locked by amendment(s)

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Eligibility Screening - Plans

You indicated that eligibility screening will be conducted during the recruitment process (Section 19.1/item 1). Please provide the following information.

1.0 *Will private identifiable information be collected during the screening?

☒ Yes ☐ No

1.1 If private identifiable information is collected during screening, are there plans to retain data from participants found to be ineligible for the study?

☐ Yes ☒ No

1.2 If private identifiable data will be collected during the screening, indicate your plans for retaining the data.

- ☐ The data will be retained with identifiers
- ☐ The data will be retained without identifiers
- ☒ The data will be destroyed

1.2.1 If you chose more than one response above, explain.

2.0 *Indicate your plans for obtaining informed consent and/or parental permission for the screening procedures.

Check all that apply.

- ☒ Oral consent will be obtained for the screening procedures. Participants will not be asked to sign a consent form (Waiver of written consent).
- ☐ A waiver of informed consent is requested for the screening procedures
- ☐ A waiver of Research Authorization for HIPAA is requested for the screening procedures.
- ☐ Signed consent will be obtained prior to performing any of the screening procedures

2.1 If you checked more than one plan above, list the study groups and the plan that you will use for each.

3.0

Describe how screening will be performed.

The subject will be reached by phone or will visit the offices of Drs. Lu and/or Denis and/or Niu to be interviewed about potentially participating in the study. If by phone, the potential subject will be asked to provide Dr. Lu and/or Denis and/or Niu with access to their chart. A thorough history and physical and chart review will be used to determine eligibility/suitability for study participation.

3.1 Attach screening script(s), if applicable.

Document Name	Document Version #
Phone_Screening_Script_clean_07312015.doc	0.01
Phone_Screening_Script_track_07312015.doc	0.01

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Oral Consent - For Screening Procedures

You indicated that you are obtaining oral consent for the screening procedures (Section 19.2/Item 2). Please provide the following information.

1.0 *Indicate the reason that you are requesting to conduct an oral consent process and/or parental permission instead of obtaining signed consent.

- ☐ The research is minimal risk and does not involve any procedures for which written consent is normally required outside the research setting (e.g., in everyday life written consent is not needed for minimal risk surveys, non-invasive health measurements, etc.) (45 CFR 46.117 c2)
- ☒ The only record linking the participants and the research would be the consent document, and the main risk of research would be a breach of confidentiality (45 CFR 46.117 c1).

e.g., Participants could suffer from social stigma, embarrassment, or other harms if it became known that they participated in research that identified them as having issues including, but not limited to, risky sexual behaviors, HIV, or mental health problems.

If you indicated that the main risk is a breach of confidentiality, answer 1.1 if appropriate.

1.1 According to DHHS regulations at 45 CFR 46.117(c1) when the main risk of the research would be a breach of confidentiality and an oral consent process is used, each participant should be asked whether he/she wants documentation linking the subject with the research and the subject's wishes will govern.

Check here if you want the IRB to consider allowing a waiver of this regulation so that you do not need to ask each subject if he/she wishes documentation.

- ☒ Request to waive documentation linking the participant with the research

2.0 *Provide a description of the oral screening procedures for the study.

Patients will be referred to Dr. Denis or Niu who will conduct a phone screening for eligibility.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 20.1 - Informed Consent Process

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Informed Consent Process

You indicated that adults (and/or minors who are permitted to consent for themselves) are participating in the study (Section 11.2/item 1.0 or Section 12.2/item 1.0).

For additional information on minors who are permitted to consent for themselves please refer to the section "Legal Exceptions Permitting Certain Minors to Consent" in the OHRPP Guidance document, [Child Assent and Permission by Parents or Guardians](#).

1.0 *Indicate your plans for obtaining informed consent for this study.

Check **all** that apply:

- ☒ **Signed consent** will be obtained from the research participant or Legally Authorized Representative.
 - Signed consent means research participants will be asked to **sign and date** a written consent form.
- ☐ **A waiver of signed consent is requested for the entire study.** One of the following procedures will be conducted:
 - A written information sheet will** be used. Signed consent will not be obtained from research participants.
 - Oral consent** will be obtained from the research participant or Legally Authorized Representative (LAR)
 - This option should be selected if the study involves consenting participants via the internet.
- ☐ **A waiver of consent** is being requested.
 - Research participants will **not** be asked to sign a consent form or give oral consent
- ☐ Consent will be obtained by a collaborating institution.

- 1.1

- If you checked more than one plan above, list the study groups and the plan that you will use for each.
 - If you checked "Consent will be obtained by a collaborating institution", explain the consent process and upload a copy of the most recent approved consent document in item 1.2.
- 1.2

If applicable, attach the consent document(s) from collaborating institution(s).

Document Name	Document Version #
There are no items to display	

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Description of the Consent Process

1.0 *Indicate the type of setting(s) in which the consent process will be conducted.

Check all that apply.

☐ In a private home

☒ In a private room

☐ In a waiting room

☐ In a public setting

☐ In a group setting

☐ On the internet

☐ Over the telephone

☐ Other

1.1 If you checked more than one response, or indicated other, describe.

1.2 If the setting is not private, describe the measures to protect confidentiality or indicate "not applicable."

2.0 *Indicate the measures that will be taken to provide prospective research participants with sufficient opportunity to consider whether or not to participate in the study.

Check all that apply.

☒ Member(s) of the study staff will meet with the prospective participants/families to review the consent document(s) and/or provide an oral explanation of the study. Individuals will be given a chance to ask questions before making a considered decision about whether or not to participate in the study.

☐ Prospective participants/families will have the opportunity to take the consent form(s) home and may discuss the documents with others prior to deciding whether or not to participate in the study.

☐ Prospective participants will self-administer the consent and send it back if they decide to participate in the study.

☐ Other

2.1 If you indicated other, describe.

3.0 *Indicate the length of time subjects are given to decide whether they wish to participate in the study. 48 hours

4.0 *How will you assess whether subjects understand the information conveyed during the consent process?

Check all that apply.

☐ Use the Subject Comprehension Tool form for research

☒ Investigator or study team member will evaluate during the consent process

☐ Other

☐ Not Applicable

4.1 If you indicated other, describe.

5.0 *Attach copies of the informed consent documents, information sheets, consent scripts as applicable to this study. Include copies of translated forms, if applicable.

Document Name

DoD Bladder Consent Form Clean 5-28-15.docx

Document Version #

0.01

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 22.1 - Cultural Considerations

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Cultural Considerations

The following items are designed to acquaint the IRB with cultural features of the population that you are studying that may require procedures to ensure truly informed consent.

1.0 *Check all that apply to the population(s) with which this study will be conducted.

- ☐ Participants may be illiterate or insufficiently literate to be able to comprehend a conventional written informed consent form.
- ☐ The participants may be reluctant or unwilling to sign a written informed consent form.
- ☐ The husbands make decisions for their wives.
- ☐ Elders make decisions for younger adult family members.
- ☐ Elders make decisions for their community.
- ☐ It is considered impolite to refuse a request.
- ☐ People are fearful of refusing requests that they regard as coming from authorities.
- ☒ **None of the above are applicable to this study.**

1.1 If any of the above items are applicable to this study, indicate the steps that you will take to ensure voluntary participation after providing the study information, and if applicable, any planned involvement with the community regarding the consent process.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 22.2 - Non-English Speaking Study Participants

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Non-English Speaking Study Participants

You indicated that you would involve non-English speaking participants in the study (Section 11.2/Item 2.0) and/or that there is a possibility that non-English speaking participants may be enrolled in the study (Section 11.2/Item 3.0). Please provide the following information.

- 1.0 ***Indicate the method that you use to conduct the consent process¹ with participants who do not speak English.**

Check all that apply.

- ☐ The consent form and other study documents will be available in the participants' primary language. Study personnel (or qualified translators) able to discuss the participation in the patients' language will be present for the consent process.
- ☒ Study staff or qualified translators will discuss the study in the participants' language.
- ☐ An oral consent process will be used. Study personnel (or qualified translators) able to discuss the participation in the participants' language will be present for the consent process.
- ☐ The short form or another method will be used to conduct the consent process.

Important Note: The short form may be used in very limited circumstances. For additional information please refer to the " 'Short Form' Method" section of the OHRPP guidance document, [Research Involving Non-English Speaking Research Participants](#).

- 1.1 **If you checked "short form or another method", provide additional details.**

- 2.0 ***How will you maintain the ability to communicate with non-English speakers throughout their participation in the study?**

Indicate "N/A" if not applicable to your study.

Members of the research staff a fluent in several languages.

- 3.0 ***If you are conducting research for which there is a real or foreseeable risk of biomedical harm in the state of California, indicate your agreement that you will provide the participants who do not read, speak, or understand English a copy of the Research Participants Bill of Rights in a language in which they are fluent. Translations into the most common languages in the greater Los Angeles area are available for download on the [OHRPP website](#).**

- ☒ Agree
- ☐ Not Applicable

¹ *If minors are involved in the study, this would also include the processes of obtaining parental permission and assent, as applicable.*

Department of Defense

You indicated that this study is being supported and or conducted in collaboration with the Department of Defense (Section 6.1/item 2.0). Please provide the following information.

1.0 *How is your project linked to the Department of Defense (DOD)?

Check all that apply.

- ☒ The project is funded by the DOD
- ☐ The project involves cooperation or collaboration with DOD
- ☐ The project uses DOD property, facilities, or assets
- ☐ DOD personnel (military or civilian) will be research participants

2.0 *Will surveys or interviews be conducted with DOD personnel as part of this study?

☐ Yes ☒ No

2.1 If yes, consult with your program officer to identify the survey requirements of the applicable branch of the DOD.

- ☐ Survey approval is not required
- ☐ Documentation of Survey approval is attached below
- ☐ UCLA IRB approval is required prior to approval from DOD
- ☐ Other

2.1.1 If you indicated "Other," specify.

2.2 Attach documentation of DOD survey approval (if applicable).

Document Name	Document Version #
There are no items to display	

3.0 Prohibitions or limitations related to DOD research

Review and indicate your assurance that you will comply with the following limitations.

3.1 *Captured or Detained Persons

SECNAVINST 3900.39D (Section 6(a)(8)) prohibits research involving "any person captured, detained, held, or otherwise under the control of DoD personnel (military or civilian, or contractor employee)" except DoD personnel held for law enforcement purposes.

Agree ☒

3.2 *Payment to Active Duty Personnel

Based on 24 USC 30, the military limits research payments for Active Duty personnel. Unless on leave status during participation, such personnel may not receive payment for participation except for blood donation. Payment for blood donation may not exceed \$50 per blood draw.

Agree ☒

3.3 *Classified (or Sensitive but Unclassified) Research

Because classified research involves restriction of the dissemination of results, UCLA institutional practice is to not accept such research. This prohibition includes the designation of "sensitive but not classified."

Agree ☒

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 23.2 - DOD - Study Greater than Minimal Risk

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."**DOD - Study Greater than Minimal Risk**

You have indicated that this study is greater than minimal risk (Section 5.1/item 1.0). The following information is required by the DOD.

1.0 Research Monitor. The following information is required regarding designation of a research monitor for this study.**1.1 *Attach a copy of the Research Monitor's curriculum vitae.**

Document Name	Document Version #
CV - Victor Chang.doc	0.01

1.2 *Attach a copy of the letter from the Research Monitor accepting the role.

Document Name	Document Version #
20140930083527367.pdf	0.01

1.3 *Indicate where the Research Monitor is named and his/her role is described. Check all that apply.

- ☐ Privacy and Confidentiality section of the consent form(s) (required only if the Monitor will have access to individually identifiable data)
- ☒ In Section 15 (Data & Safety Monitoring) of this application
- ☐ In the attached protocol for this study

1.3.1 If you indicated that the Research Monitor's role is described in the attached protocol, indicate the page number and/or section where the information can be found.**2.0 *Protections for Military Personnel. Check the assurance(s) applicable to your recruitment plan**

- ☐ Not Applicable - Department of Defense personnel (military or civilian) are not a target population
- ☒ I will ascertain that an individual's decision about participation has not been influenced by unit officers or senior noncommissioned officers (NCOs)
- ☐ I will exclude unit officers and senior NCOs from recruitment/consent sessions for units under their command
- ☐ I will offer separate recruitment/consent sessions for officers and NCOs excluded from sessions held for their units
- ☐ An ombudsperson not connected to the research or to the unit shall be present to monitor group recruitment briefings
- ☐ Other - I am implementing the following protections not specified above

2.1 If you indicated "other," describe.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 24.0 - Additional Information and/or Attachments

Warning: Save your work at least every 15 minutes by clicking "Save" or "Continue."

Additional Information and/or Attachments

- 1.0 **Attach any other documents that have not been specifically requested in previous items, but are needed for IRB Review.**

Document Name	Document Version #
Alaynick_CV_Long_2014.pdf	0.01
CV_Morteza Modaber.pdf	0.01
CV_Paymon_Rezaei.pdf	0.01
DCL Blosketch.pdf	0.01
PersonnelCITIPackages.pdf	0.01

- 2.0 **If there is any additional information that you want to communicate about this study, include it in the area provided. Note: this section should not be used instead of the standard application items.**

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: NEW 100.0 - Instructions for Study Submission

Instructions for Study Submission

You have completed your application, **but it has not yet been submitted**.

FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATION TO THE IRB FOR REVIEW:

1. Click the **Finish** button to return to exit the SmartForm and return to the study workspace.
2. Use the **View SmartForm Progress** function to make sure that the application is complete.
3. If you are the **PI** or **PI Proxy**, click **Submit Study** under **My Activities**. If you are a member of the study team, you can let the PI know that the study is ready to submit by clicking **Send Ready Notification**.
4. Once the study is submitted, the state indicator at the top of the page will no longer display **Pre-Submission**.
5. After submission of the study, the **PI Assurances** activity will immediately become available under **My Activities**. The PI should provide his/her assurances at that time. If the PI is not available, the study can be submitted by a PI Proxy and the assurances provided at a later time. The study will be reviewed by the IRB while the **PI Assurances** are pending; however, it will not be approved until the **PI assurances** are completed.
6. **If there is a Faculty Sponsor for the study:** The study can not be submitted to the IRB until the Faculty Sponsor provides his/her assurances through **FS Assurances** activity.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Audio, Visual or Digital Recordings

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Behavioral Observations (only applicable if you selected Exempt Category 2 in section 5.3)

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Certificate of Confidentiality

Certificates of Confidentiality are issued by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to protect the privacy of research subjects by protecting investigators and institutions from being compelled to release information that could be used to identify subjects with a research project. Certificates of Confidentiality are issued to institutions or universities where the research is conducted. They allow the investigator and others who have access to research records to refuse to disclose identifying information in any civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceeding, whether at the federal, state, or local level. The project does not need to be funded by NIH to obtain a Certificate of Confidentiality. For additional information see <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coc/>

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Clinical Trial of a Drug, Biologic, Device or a Behavioral Intervention

A clinical trial is a research study designed to answer specific questions about medical or behavioral treatments. The trial may be interventional or observational. Interventional studies are those in which the research participants are assigned by the investigator to a treatment or other intervention, and the outcomes measured. Observational studies are those in which individuals are observed and the outcomes are measured by the investigators.

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Community Based Research

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Controlled Substances (Schedule I or II)

Check here only if you are using a Schedule I or II Controlled substance in this study. Research using Schedule I or Schedule II controlled Substances must be submitted to the Research Advisory Panel of California for review and approval prior to initiation. Research using Schedule III, IV, or V Controlled Substances as a study drug do not require review by the Research Advisory Panel. For further information see: <http://ag.ca.gov/research/guide.php> o Schedule I Controlled Substances are drugs or substances with a high potential for abuse, that have no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States. Examples of Schedule I Controlled Substances are: heroin, lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), methylenedioxy-methamphetamine (MDMA), marijuana, and psilocybin. o Schedule II Controlled Substances are drugs or substances with a high potential for abuse, that have a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, or a currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions. Examples of Schedule II Controlled Substances are: fentanyl, methadone, methylphenidate, morphine, and oxycodone. For further information see: <http://www.dea diversion.usdoj.gov/schedules/index.html>

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Deception or Partial Disclosure

Deception includes withholding information about the real purpose of the study or purposely giving subjects false information about some aspect of the research to prevent bias. Some professions, such as the American Psychological Association (APA) have ethical codes regarding the use of

deception in research. (See sections 8.07 and 8.08 at <http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/index.aspx#807>) If deception is included in the study, you must also apply for approval of a waiver of the informed consent process (Section 20.1) in addition to selecting the other consent procedures planned for the study (e.g., written or oral consent).

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Devices/Diagnostics (including Humanitarian Devices - HUD)

A medical device is defined, in part, as any health care product that does not achieve its primary intended purposes by chemical action or by being metabolized. Medical devices include, among other things, surgical lasers, wheelchairs, sutures, pacemakers, vascular grafts, intraocular lenses, and orthopedic pins. Medical devices also include diagnostic aids such as reagents and test kits for in vitro diagnosis (IVD) of disease and other medical conditions such as pregnancy. For further information see: <http://www.fda.gov/oc/ohrt/irbs/irbreview.pdf>

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Drugs/Biologics/Dietary Supplements

- Drug: The term "drug" means: articles recognized in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, official Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official National Formulary, or any supplement to any of them; and articles intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or other animals; and articles (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or other animals.
- Biologics vs. Drugs: Most drugs consist of pure chemical substances and their structures are known. Most biologics, however, are complex mixtures that are not easily identified or characterized. Biological products differ from conventional drugs in that they tend to be heat-sensitive and susceptible to microbial contamination. This requires sterile processes to be applied from initial manufacturing steps. For more information see: <http://www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/biologics062608.html#drugs>
- Dietary Supplements are products that are intended to supplement the diet and have one of the following ingredients:
 - ☐ A vitamin
 - ☐ A mineral
 - ☐ An herb or other botanical
 - ☐ An amino acid
 - ☐ A dietary substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total daily intake
 - ☐ A concentrate, metabolite, constituents, or an extract of combinations of these ingredients.

For additional information see: <http://www.foodsafety.gov/~dms/supplmnt.html>

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Expanded Access to Drug, Device or Biologic for Treatment Purposes (aka Compassionate Use, Treatment Use)

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Genetic Analyses/Genotyping

Genetic analyses/genotyping include, but are not limited to, studies of inheritable conditions or traits, gene markers or mutations, and pedigrees.

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Human Embryonic Stem Cells and/or Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells

Research with human embryonic stem cells (hESC) and related lines requires IRB review under the following conditions: o Clinical research in which human subjects are given hESCs or related products. o When the UCLA research team will have a research related direct interaction or intervention with the cell donors, including donation of blastocysts or gametes for the purpose of creating hESCs,. o Cells provided to the UCLA research team that have identifiers or codes that can be linked back to the donor. Research involving hESC requires review and approval by the ESCRO Committee. For further information see: <http://www.stemcell.ucla.edu/research>

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Human Gene Transfer/ Recombinant DNA

Studies involving gene transfer and/or recombinant DNA require approval of the UCLA Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) and the NIH Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee (RAC) . Human gene transfer is an investigational method for correcting defective genes responsible for disease development through one of the following techniques: o A normal gene may be inserted into a nonspecific location within the genome to replace a nonfunctional gene. o An abnormal gene could be swapped for a normal gene. o The abnormal gene could be repaired through selective reverse mutation, which returns the gene to its normal function. o The regulation of a particular gene could be altered. Recombinant DNA molecules, according to the NIH Guidelines, are defined as either: (i) molecules that are constructed outside living cells by joining natural or synthetic DNA segments to DNA molecules that can replicate in a living cell, or (ii) molecules that result from the replication of those described in (i) above.

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Infectious Agents

Studies involving the use of Risk Group 2 or 3 infectious agents (such as bacteria, fungi, parasites, prions, rickettsia, viruses, etc.) require approval of the UCLA Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC).

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

View: Display - Method Description

Non-FDA approved medical equipment used with UCLA hospital patients or research participants that operate under the UCLA Hospital License.

Clinical Engineering is responsible for completing incoming inspections on investigational devices that are used to diagnose, treat or monitor a patient and that are used in the patient care area on site at UCLA, but *not* in other hospitals such as Cedars Sinai, CHLA, or Drew. If a device is FDA and/or testing - laboratory approved for the purpose it was designed, then evaluation is not required of the device. If you have a copy of an inspection report from Clinical Engineering, please attach here. As appropriate, please contact Clinical Engineering at 310-267-9000 to arrange an inspection.

Click "OK" below to return to the SmartForm page where you can select the appropriate response.

ID: IRB#14-000932

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Radiation (Standard of Care or Investigational use of radioactive materials or ionizing radiation)

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Molecular and cellular development of spinal cord locomotor circuitry

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The spinal cord of vertebrate animals is comprised of intrinsic circuits that are capable of sensing the environment and generating complex motor behaviors. There are two major perspectives for understanding the biology of this complicated structure. The first approaches the spinal cord from the point of view of function and is based on classic and ongoing research in electrophysiology, adult behavior, and spinal cord injury. The second view considers the spinal cord from a developmental perspective and is founded mostly on gene expression and gain-of-function and loss-of-function genetic experiments. Together these studies have uncovered functional classes of neurons and their lineage relationships. In this review, we summarize our knowledge of developmental classes, with an eye toward understanding the functional roles of each group.

Keywords: interneuron, motor neuron, transcription factor, locomotion, sensory, circuit

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Received: 02 April 2015

Accepted: 30 May 2015

Published: 16 June 2015

Citation:

Lu DC, Niu T and Alaynick WA (2015)
Molecular and cellular development
of spinal cord locomotor circuitry.
Front. Mol. Neurosci. 8:25.
doi: 10.3389/fnmol.2015.00025

Introduction

More than 20 distinct embryonic classes of neurons have been described in the spinal cord, and the developmental sources of their diversity have been elucidated over the past decade (**Figure 1**). This cellular diversity has been organized into a schema that defines major groups of neurons based on their expression of embryonic transcription factors. The major characteristics of these classes their generation, transcription factors, subsets, positions, neurotransmitters, connections, and functions are summarized here.

Spinal cord development is subject to phylogenetically ancient organizing principles such as those that guide segmentation from the invertebrates, such as arthropods, to the vertebrates, such as mammals. Cellular identities in vertebrate spinal cord are specified during development along the three basic spatial axes of the embryonic body plan – rostral–caudal, dorsal–ventral, and medial–lateral. In addition, there is a temporal influence of development on these spatial coordinates such that distinct cell fates emerge at different times during development. This yields a four dimensional system for establishing spinal neuron cell fate that has been reviewed extensively (Jessell, 2000; Jankowska, 2001; Lee and Pfaff, 2001; Muroyama et al., 2002; Helms and Johnson, 2003; Goulding and Pfaff, 2005; Kiehn, 2006; Ladle et al., 2007; Stepien and Arber, 2008; Dasen and Jessell, 2009; Goulding, 2009; Grillner and Jessell, 2009; Hegarty et al., 2013).

To summarize briefly, the rostral–caudal positional identities are coordinated by opposing gradients of fibroblast growth factor (Fgf, caudalizing) and retinoic acid (RA, rostralizing; **Figure 2**; Muhr et al., 1999; Liu et al., 2001; Dasen et al., 2008). The dorsal–ventral axis is governed by ventralizing Sonic hedgehog (Shh) produced by the floorplate, and dorsalizing signals from the roof plate such as bone morphogenetic proteins (BMPs) and Wnts (which are members of the Wingless + MMTV integrants, *Int* family). These diffusible morphogens form gradients that activate specific transcriptional responses at defined points in the gradient (Roelink et al., 1994; Liem et al., 1995;

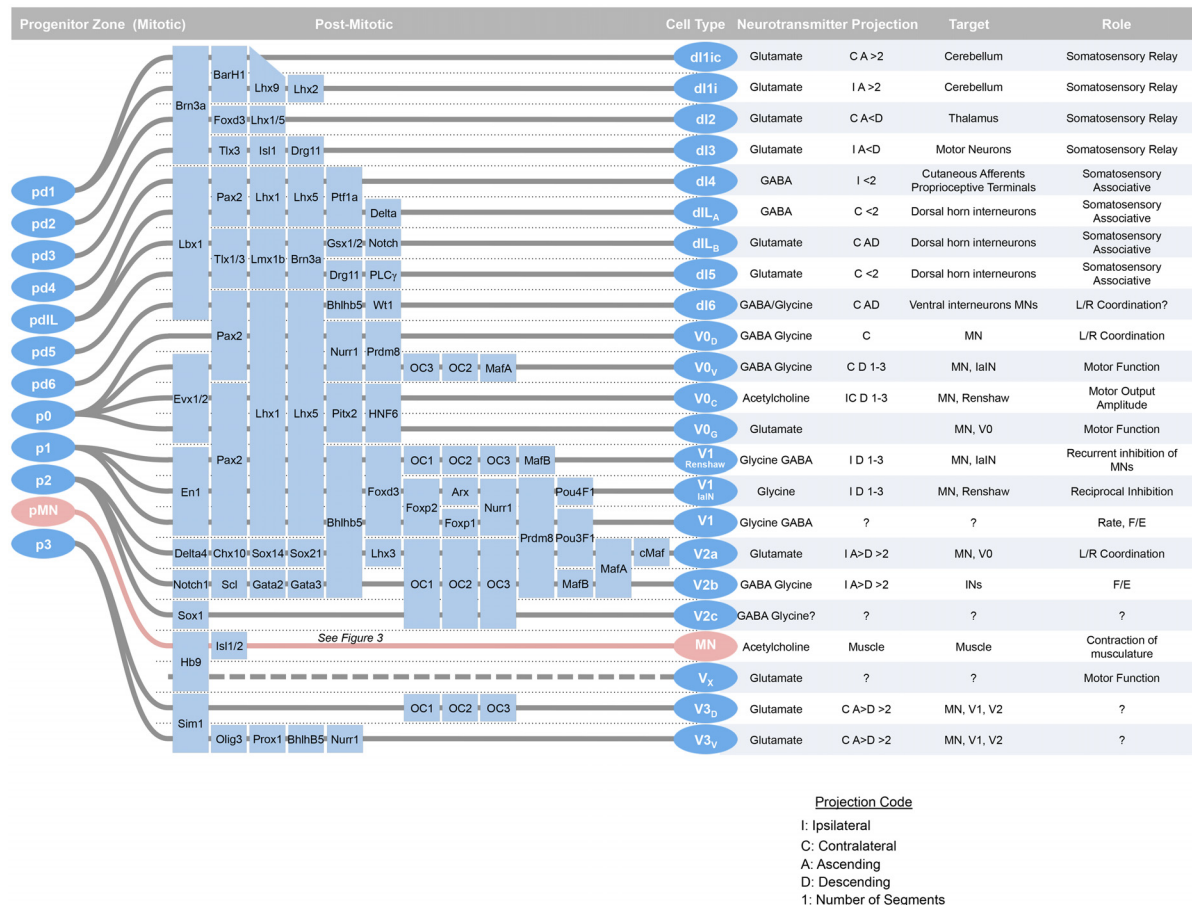


FIGURE 1 | At around mid-gestation, progenitors exit the cell cycle and begin to take up characteristic setting positions, extend axons, and express transcription factors and neurotransmitter biosynthetic enzymes. Over the last week of development, 23 classes of neurons can be defined by transcription factor expression. Adapted from Alaynick et al. (2011).

Ericson et al., 1996; Lee et al., 1998; Megason and McMahon, 2002; Muroyama et al., 2002; Timmer et al., 2002). These transcriptional programs first specify and reinforce the identities of progenitor cells, and second, act to oppose adjacent transcriptional programs and sharpen boundaries between progenitor zones. In the ventral cord, these transcription factors are grouped into two classes, those that are inhibited by Shh (Class I) and those that are activated by Shh (Class II; Briscoe et al., 2000). Spinal cord development is also organized along a medial-lateral axis dividing progenitor cells that are located adjacent to the lumen of the neural tube, medially, whereas differentiating progeny migrate laterally. Over time, a given progenitor domain defined by these spatial coordinates may sequentially produce distinct cellular classes.

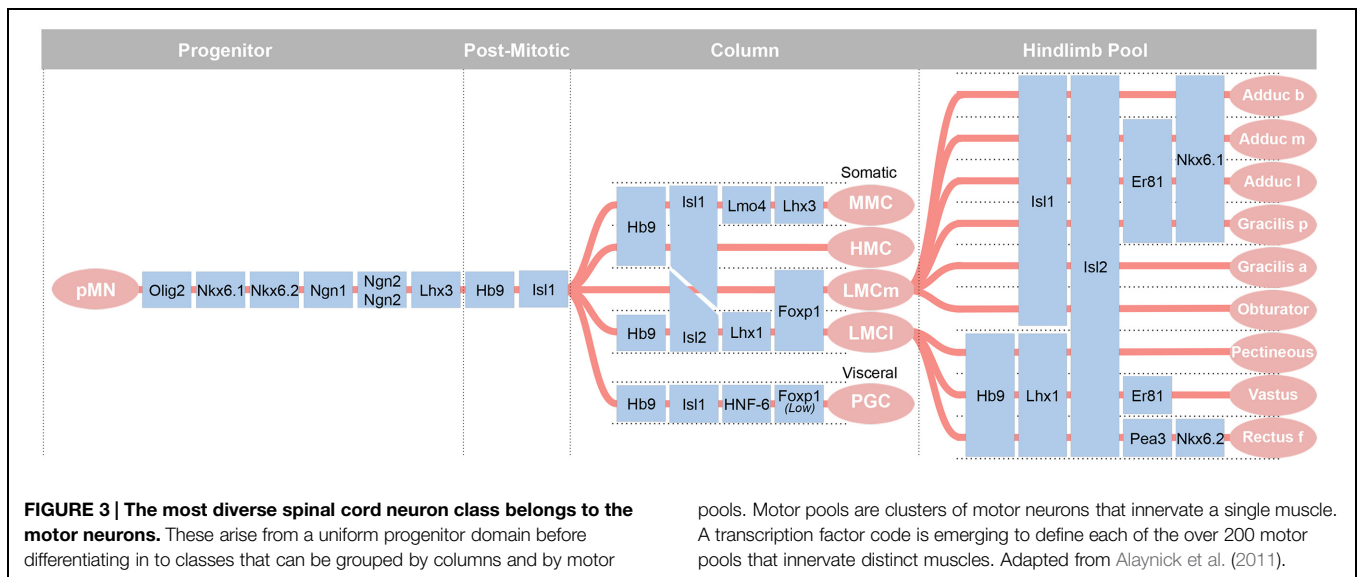
Within an idealized spinal cord segment, this system establishes thirteen progenitor pools along the dorsal-ventral axis (Figure 2). There are eight dorsal interneuron progenitor divisions, pd1–6 and the late-born pdILA and pdILB, four ventral interneuron progenitor divisions, p0–3, and one motor neuron progenitor domain, pMN (Alaynick et al., 2011). The identities of these domains are predominantly defined

by basic-helix-loop-helix (bHLH) domain transcription factors, such as Ngn, Olig2, and Math (Birmingham et al., 2001; Gowan et al., 2001; Novitch et al., 2001; Scardigli et al., 2001; and homeodomain proteins, such as Pax3, Dbx1, and Nkx6.1 (Briscoe et al., 2000; Vallstedt et al., 2001; Subsequently, additional transcription factors, predominantly of the LIM-homeodomain family, such as Lhx1 and Isl1, are expressed in sub-groups of these domains, further refining cell fate into at least 23 distinct classes (Tsuchida et al., 1994; Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002; Thaler et al., 2002; Cheng et al., 2004).

Ventral Compartment of Distinct Progenitor Cells

pMN Fate

The pMN cell domain gives rise to: (1) 100s of genetically distinct groups of cholinergic alpha motor neurons clustered into motor pools that innervate specific skeletal muscles; (2) gamma motor neurons that innervate intrafusal fibers of specific skeletal



into motor columns and motor pools requires the subsequent expression of additional transcription factors (Lin et al., 1998; Dasen et al., 2005, 2008). These factors then drive the unique characteristics of that motor pool, such as guidance to the target and establishment of proper connectivity with sensory neurons and interneurons. Interestingly, this transcriptionally defined program is complemented by activity-dependent processes that control cellular connectivity and function (Hanson and Landmesser, 2004; Myers et al., 2005). In the case of gamma motor neurons, the nuclear receptor *Errγ* is expressed in these motor neurons and their survival is dependent on GDNF signaling (Gould et al., 2008; Friese et al., 2009; Shneider et al., 2009; Ashrafi et al., 2012).

The motor neuron progenitor domain is ventral to the *Irx3* expressing p2 domain that delimits *Olig2* expression and is dorsal to the p3 domain that expresses *Nkx2.2* and *Nkx2.9* to delimit *Pax6* expression. The expression of *Nkx6.1* and *Nkx6.2* acts to limit transcription factor expression to *Olig2*, that in turn drives the expression of MN transcription factors *Hb9* (*Mnr2* in chick), and *Ngn2* (Briscoe et al., 2000; Sander et al., 2000; Vallstedt et al., 2001; Shirasaki and Pfaff, 2002). *Hb9*, expressed during the final cell division of pMNs, is sufficient to drive the expression of *Isl1*, *Isl2*, *Lhx3*, and *ChAT*—as well as its own expression—establishing pMN independence from *Shh* (Tanabe et al., 1998). Like *Mnr2*, the HD transcription factor, *Hb9*, can induce the formation of motor neurons when ectopically expressed. Loss of *Hb9* in mouse, however, results in ectopic upregulation of a V2 IN marker gene, *Chx10*, but does not result in complete loss of motor neurons or of fictive locomotion (Arber et al., 1999; Thaler et al., 1999; Alaynick, Pfaff unpublished observations).

Motor Neuron Subtypes

The Medial and Hypaxial Motor Columns (MMC and HMC)

The medial sub-group of motor neurons innervates axial musculature and is found the length of the spinal cord. There are

two divisions of this group, the medial motor column (MMC) and the hypaxial motor column (HMC or MMCI). Both express *Isl1* and *Isl2*, although the ratio of expression varies, with greater *Isl1* expression in the HMC than MMC at E11.5 and greater *Isl2* in the MMC than HMC by E13.5 in mouse (Tsuchida et al., 1994; Thaler et al., 2004). The MMC innervates dorsal or epaxial musculature, while HMC innervates ventral or hypaxial musculature. Initially all motor neuron progenitors express the LIM homeodomain transcription factor, *Lhx3*. *Lhx3* expression is maintained in the MMC while *Lhx3* expression is downregulated in the HMC and LMC (Tsuchida et al., 1994). Motor neuron (*Hb9* promoter) dependent expression of *Lhx3* results in conversion of LMC motor neurons to a MMC identity (Sharma et al., 2000).

The Lateral Motor Column (LMC)

At limb levels, the 50 or so muscles of the limb are innervated by motor neurons occupying a lateral motor column (Landmesser, 1978). Neurons of the lateral portion of the LMC (LMCI) are later born than the MMC motor neurons, and like the cortex, migrate in an inside-out arrangement such that LMC neurons are born in the proliferative ventricular zone of the pMN domain and then migrate through the MMC to form the LMC. While initially expressing *Lhx3*, a hallmark of MMC identity, these motor neurons down-regulate *Lhx3* by an unknown mechanism and begin to express transcription factors not found in MMC that are definitive for LMC identity. The factors include *Foxp1*, *Lim1*, and the enzyme *Raldh2* (Sharma et al., 1998, 2000; Sockanathan and Jessell, 1998). The lateral motor column has lateral (LMCI) and medial (LMCm) divisions that innervate the dorsal and ventral portions of the limb, respectively, and these cell fates are partially regulated by RA signaling (Sockanathan et al., 2003; Ji et al., 2006). In the LMCI, *Lim1* and *Hb9* are expressed while *Isl1* is downregulated. In the LMCm, there is low *Hb9* and maintained *Isl1* expression. The LMCm and LMCI both express *Isl2*, which is downregulated in the MMC and HMC (Misra et al., 2009). The LMCm and LMCI are further subdivided into motor pools, each

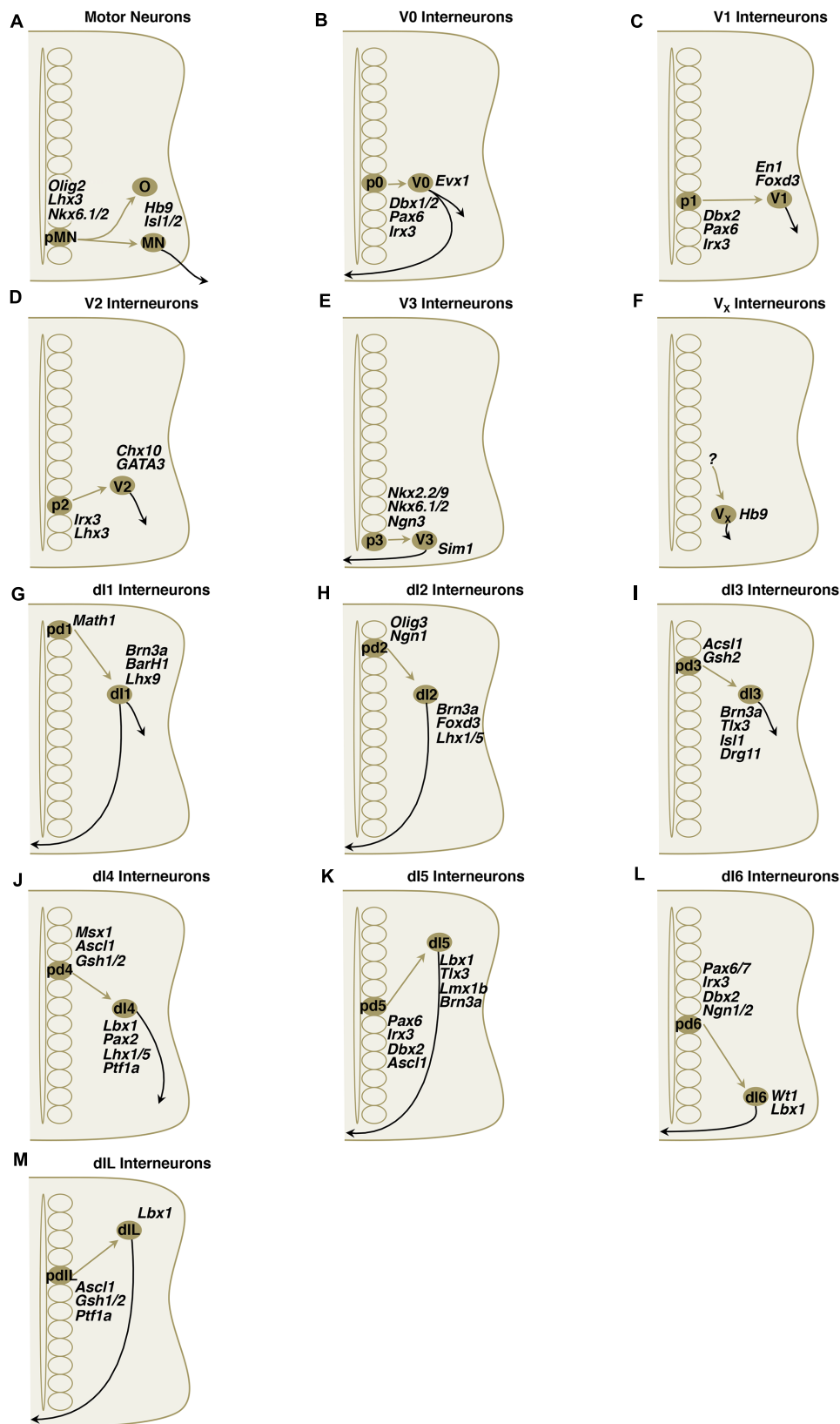


FIGURE 4 | (A–M) Simplified schematic illustrations of development of MNs and ventral/dorsal subclass interneurons with important transcriptional factors.

innervating a specific muscle of the limb. These individual motor pools are defined by their expression of *Ets* and *Nkx* transcription factors that constitute a more refined transcriptional code (De Marco Garcia and Jessell, 2008).

The rostro-caudal regions of the LMC appear to be determined in part by homeobox (*Hox*) genes. *Hox6* is characteristic of brachial level, *Hox9* of thoracic and *Hox10* of lumbar. Disruption of the *Hox* genes in mouse or chick has shown that these boundaries can be profoundly altered to create an expansion of lateral motor columns into thoracic regions (Jung et al., 2010). More strikingly, loss of the *Hox* co-factor *Foxp1* disrupts the ability of motor neurons to incorporate the homeobox code for spatial information, and results in a loss of defined motor pools in the LMC (Dasen et al., 2008).

Preganglionic Motor Neurons (PGC)

Preganglionic motor neurons of the sympathetic nervous system are the most dorsal motor neurons and can be identified by their expression of *ChAT*, *NADPH Diaphorase*, and some members of the one-cut transcription factor class (Francius and Clotman, 2010). Preganglionic motor neurons are also dependent on the downregulation of *Lhx3* and are lost with continued, *Hb9*-dependent expression of *Lhx3* in all motor neurons, or loss of *Foxp1* or *Isl2* (Sharma et al., 2000; Thaler et al., 2004; Dasen et al., 2005, 2008).

Spinal Interneurons

A great deal has been learned about the development of discrete classes of interneurons by describing them by electrophysiology, behavioral output, and by expression of proteins involved in transcription, neurotransmitter signaling, and intracellular signaling. Currently, this schema has defined over 20 interneuron types in the spinal cord. While one can argue that every neuron has a unique molecular/genetic expression profile, dendritic arborization and axonal projection pattern, this grouping schema has been useful in organizing interneurons into functionally related groups.

Historically, two broad groups have been defined: the “V” interneurons with progenitors that are found in the ventral cord and are grossly associated with motor function, and a dorsal Interneuron, dI class, associated predominantly with sensory processing. Most studies have examined development within a single or a few segments. A recent study examined rostro-caudal differences at one time point, e12.5 (Francius et al., 2013). This showed that subclasses of ventral interneurons (V0, V1, V2, and V3) exhibit distinct organizational patterns at brachial, thoracic and lumbar levels of the developing spinal cord. Furthermore, each cardinal “V” class of ventral interneurons can be subdivided into several subsets according to further combinatorial expression of transcription factors (Francius et al., 2013). Given these caveats that likely apply to other interneuron classes, the V and dI interneuron classifications are a simplification with exceptions, some of which are listed below. Despite these limitations, the V and dI schema is a useful approach to the subject.

V0 Interneuron Characteristics

Local projecting V0 neurons are a population of primarily contralateral, with some ipsilateral projecting neurons with inhibitory or excitatory identity that send axons 2–4 spinal segments rostrally (Moran-Rivard et al., 2001; Pierani et al., 2001). They receive inputs from ipsilaterally projecting *Chx10*⁺ glutamatergic V2a interneurons (Crone et al., 2008; **Figure 5**). They are the dorsal-most ventral progenitor pool and are characterized by their expression of the *Dbx* (developing brain homeobox) homeodomain transcription factor, *Evx1/2* (even-skipped homeobox 1; **Figure 4B**). *Dbx1* and *Dbx2* are expressed in dividing cells, although *Dbx1* may be briefly expressed in post-mitotic cells (see V1 discussion Pierani et al., 1999). Four V0 interneuron subclasses have been described to date: V0_V, V0_D, V0_C, and V0_G (Pierani et al., 1999, 2001; Moran-Rivard et al., 2001; Lanuza et al., 2004; Zagoraïou et al., 2009). Early studies addressed the V0 class by eliminating *Dbx1* and showing that the *Evx1*⁺ V0_V subclass was lost because these neurons become fated to an *En1*⁺ V1-like subclass and astrocytes (Pierani et al., 2001; Lanuza et al., 2004). Because *Dbx1* is transiently expressed, a *Dbx1*^{LacZ} knock-in allele was used to show that with loss of *Dbx1*, E18.5 embryos retained 40% of the βgal⁺ cells and resulted in a 25% expansion in the number of *Lbx1*⁺ *Pax2*⁺ dl6-like commissural neurons (Lanuza et al., 2004). By perinatal time points, genetic strategies to track *Dbx1*⁺ cells using βgal find that most of these cells are neural by expression of *NeuN* and are found in lamina VIII where commissural interneurons reside. Lineage labeling of *Dbx1*-derived cell reveals a large abundance of glia (Lanuza et al., 2004). Moreover, the *Dbx1* lineage includes many dorsal horn neurons as this transcription factor is also expressed in dorsal domains. Loss of *Dbx1* results in loss of V0_D and V0_V subclasses, whereas loss of *Evx1* results in a loss of only the V0_V subclass (Moran-Rivard et al., 2001; Pierani et al., 2001; Lanuza et al., 2004). V0 and V1 classes both express *Lhx1* and *Lhx5*, markers of inhibitory spinal interneurons (Pillai et al., 2007).

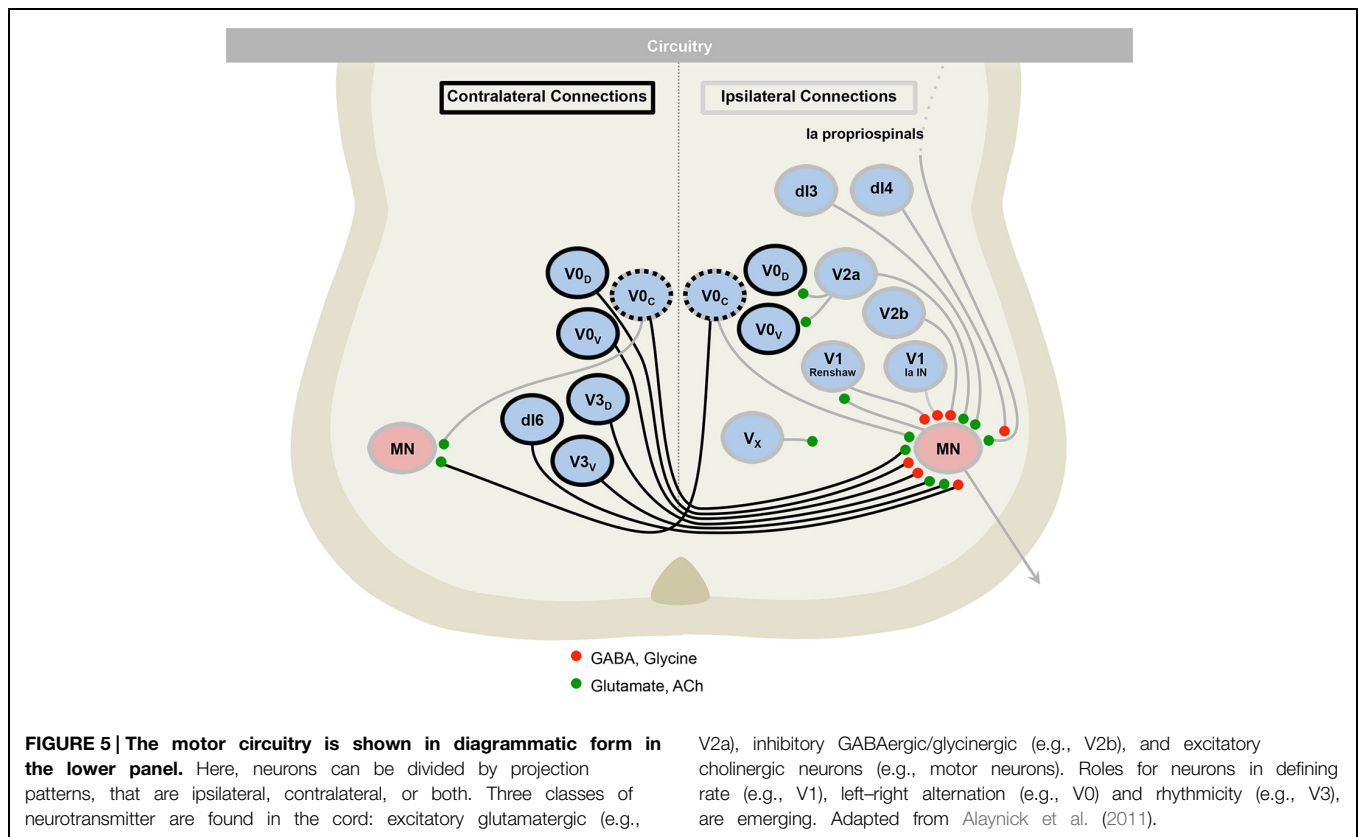
V0 Birth and Early Development

In mouse, the majority of *Dbx1*⁺ progenitors appear between E10 and E13 and give rise to V0_D and V0_V commissural interneurons (Moran-Rivard et al., 2001; Pierani et al., 2001; Lanuza et al., 2004). *Dbx1/2* expression is found in the rostral CNS at stage 13 in chick and more caudally by stage 15 (Pierani et al., 1999). *Evx1/2* positive V0 cells are generated at stages 17 and 18 and appear in the ventral domain of *Dbx1* and *Dbx2* expression (Pierani et al., 1999). Ventral *Evx1/2* expressing V0 neurons appear at stages 17–18 within the ventral expression domain of *Dbx1* and *Dbx2*, and then migrate ventrally (Pierani et al., 1999). The V0 class appears from a *Pax6*⁺, *Dbx1/2*⁺, *Pax3/7*[−] domain that is the dorsal-most ventral progenitor domain (Pierani et al., 1999).

V0 Interneuron Subtypes

V0_V

The primarily inhibitory V0_V class is distinguished by transient expression of the homeodomain transcription factor, *Evx1*. These cells arise from the ventral portion of the *Dbx1*⁺ progenitor domain, and like all post-mitotic cells arising from *Dbx1*⁺



progenitors, they share a similar post-mitotic migration and commissural axon pattern (Moran-Rivard et al., 2001; Pierani et al., 2001). The $V0_V$ interneurons are implicated in locomotion as indicated by increased c-fos immunoreactivity following fictive locomotion (Lanuza et al., 2004). However, *Evx1* knockout mice have grossly normal locomotion patterns despite a ~70% reduction in the $V0_V$ interneurons and loss of appropriate contralateral intersegmental axonal projections in the remaining ~30% of interneurons (Moran-Rivard et al., 2001). A subset of the $V0_V$ class has been reported to be excitatory in an unpublished observation (Zhang et al., 2008).

$V0_D$

Unlike the $V0_V$ subclass, the more dorsal *Dbx1*⁺ progenitors of the glycinergic/GABAergic $V0_D$ class do not express *Evx1* (Pierani et al., 2001; Lanuza et al., 2004). And while both $V0_D$ and $V0_V$ classes have similar axon guidance and cell body position, the loss of the $V0_D$ class, in conjunction with $V0_V$ class, does appear to alter locomotor behavior. When *Dbx1* is knocked out, eliminating all $V0$ progenitors, a disruption of left-right coordination is observed at lumbar levels L2 and L5. These periods of left-right synchrony are intermittent and periods of normal left-right alternation are observed amidst episodes of synchrony (Lanuza et al., 2004). No disruption of flexor-extensor behavior, as indicated by alternating phasic activity of the L2 and L5 segments, was observed in a drug-induced isolated cord fictive locomotion assay (Lanuza et al., 2004). Recently, studies have showed that a cluster of $V0_D$ cells lateral to the

central canal receive substantial input from primary afferents and preferentially project axons toward contralateral motoneurons via an oligosynaptic pathway, and are active during fictive locomotion. This suggests that this subset of $V0$ interneurons may be primarily responsible for coordination of left-right alternation during locomotion (Griener et al., 2015).

$V0_C$ and $V0_G$

The $V0_C$ and $V0_G$ subclass represent ~5% of $V0$ progenitors and are identified by expression of *Pitx2* and occupy a medial position dorsal to the central canal (Zagoraïou et al., 2009). These cells were first observed in lumbar levels at E11.5–12.0 by *Pitx2* immunoreactivity which, unlike many embryonic markers, could be detected until postnatal day 30 (Zagoraïou et al., 2009). Neurotransmitter markers can subdivide the *Pitx2*⁺ cells into cholinergic (*vAChT*⁺ and *ChAT*⁺) and glutamatergic (*vGluT2*⁺) types that are distinct (Zagoraïou et al., 2009). While these are found at cervical and lumbar levels, within the lumbar cord, these two types are distributed in a gradient such that a greater number of cholinergic interneurons are found at more rostral levels and a greater number of glutamatergic interneurons at more caudal levels (Zagoraïou et al., 2009). The cholinergic cells are distinct from *Pitx2*[−] cholinergic C3 propriospinal interneurons (Zagoraïou et al., 2009). By genetic tracing, ~80% of these neurons were determined to be from a *Dbx1*⁺ progenitor domain at E12.5 and loss of *Dbx1* eliminated the *Pitx2* immunoreactivity in the intermediate cord. Because $V0_C$ and $V0_G$ *Pitx2*⁺ cells transiently express *Evx1*, they appear to be subsets of the $V0_V$

class. This relatively small ipsilaterally and bilaterally projecting class, however, is responsible for perhaps all c-boutons on motor neurons found in P8 to P25 mice (Zagoraoui et al., 2009; Stepien et al., 2010). These interneurons provide relatively weak innervation to *Sox14::eGFP⁺* V2a and calbindin⁺ V1 Renshaw cells. These cells appear to be involved in local circuitry as corticospinal and sensory *vGluT1⁺* glutamatergic boutons were not found, whereas serotonergic and *GAD67⁺* GABAergic boutons were observed (Zagoraoui et al., 2009). While previous experiments did not find a gross locomotor behavioral defect with loss of the V0v subclass in *Evx1* mutant animals, *Pitx2* mutant animals were found to have defects in locomotion revealed by EMG recordings during swimming (Zagoraoui et al., 2009). This deficit was argued to represent an abnormal integration of sensory inputs. It may, alternatively or in addition, represent a deficit in C-terminal modulation of motor neuron excitability. A survey in E12.5 mice showed that several V0 subclasses can be defined by expression of *Pax2*, *Pax6*, *Evx1*, *Ptx2*, *Nurr1*, *HNF-6*, *Bhlhb5*, and *Prdm8* (Francius et al., 2013).

V1 Interneuron Characteristics

As a population, this group appears to control burst durations and is comprised of cells physiologists defined as Ia inhibitory and Renshaw cells. Mice models without V1 and V2b showed significant difficulty with limb articulation in flexion and extension (Zhang et al., 2014). The pV1 progenitor domain gives rise to important inhibitory subclasses of neurons that were previously described electrophysiologically: the Ia inhibitory interneurons that mediate reciprocal inhibition and the Renshaw cells that mediate inhibitory feedback to integrate limb and muscle length information into spinal circuitry. Renshaw cells and Ia inhibitory interneurons are V1 derived, but differ in morphology, location, calcium-binding protein expression, synaptic connectivity, and function. These differences are already present in neonates and their differentiation starts in the early embryo (Benito-Gonzalez and Alvarez, 2012). In addition, 75% of V1 interneurons are non-Ia, non-Renshaw subclasses that await characterization (Sapir et al., 2004; Alvarez et al., 2005). Short-range ipsilaterally and rostrally projecting glycinergic/GABAergic V1 neurons are characterized by transient expression of homeodomain transcription factor *En1* (Figure 4C; Burrill et al., 1997; Matisse and Joyner, 1997; Pierani et al., 1999, 2001; Saueressig et al., 1999). Studies in embryonic chick indicate that these neurons project for only 1–2 segments and have been shown to make inhibitory contacts onto motor neurons and other interneurons, although this may not be the case in the mature mouse (Wenner et al., 1998, 2000). Loss of *Pax6* or *En1*-dependent DTA ablation eliminates the recurrent inhibition by Renshaw cells on motor neurons (Sapir et al., 2004; Gosgnach et al., 2006). Elimination of V1 interneurons results in a marked slowing on the drug-induced fictive locomotion period that is seen in conventional knockouts, targeted ablation, and acute inhibition with allatostatin (Gosgnach et al., 2006; Goulding, 2009). The mechanism by which elimination of an inhibitory class would prolong the locomotor cycle remains unknown and may result from the loss of inhibitory neurons to terminate MN firing. The V1 class, like V0, expresses the

inhibitory spinal interneuron markers *Lhx1* and *Lhx5* (Pillai et al., 2007).

V1 Birth and Early Development

Unlike cells in the dorsal-most p0 domain that expresses *Dbx1* and *Dbx2*, the adjacent p1 domain only expresses *Dbx2* (Pierani et al., 1999). The V1 class appears from a *Pax6⁺*, *Dbx2⁺*, *Nkx6.2⁺*, *Dbx1⁻* domain that is ventral to the *Dbx1/2⁺* V0 domain (Matisse and Joyner, 1997; Pierani et al., 1999). In chick, *En1⁺*, *Lim1/2⁺* V1 neurons appear at stage 17, and most appear ventral to the domain of *Dbx1* expression, within the ventral domain of these *Dbx2⁺*, *Dbx1⁻* progenitors (Pierani et al., 1999). *Dbx* expression does not overlap with *En1*, perhaps due to the relatively late expression of *En1* (Pierani et al., 1999). Genetic tracing studies using *Dbx1^{nlslacZ}* mice between ages E10 and E16.5 found that ~5–10% of *En1⁺* cells did express a low level of β gal, perhaps a reflection of transient *Dbx1* expression and more enduring β gal protein. The V1 class is marked by expression of *Foxd3*, found in the dI2 domain, as well (Ramos et al., 2010). The transcription factor, *Bhlhb5*, which marks the V1, V2 and dI6 domains, is required at least partially for V1 identity assessed by *En1* expression (Ramos et al., 2010; Skaggs et al., 2011). Expression of *Bhlhb5* in conjunction with *Ng2* facilitates V1 identity ectopically (Skaggs et al., 2011).

V1 Interneuron Subtypes

V1 Renshaw

Renshaw cells use both glycine and GABA as neurotransmitters, transiently express *Gad65* early in embryonic development and have both motor neurons and Ia interneurons as targets (Saueressig et al., 1999; Sapir et al., 2004). They also express calbindin D28K embryonically and continue to express this marker into adulthood (Alvarez et al., 1999; Geiman et al., 2000). They receive input from motor neuron collaterals that release acetylcholine, glutamate, and aspartate (Mentis et al., 2005; Richards et al., 2014). Renshaw cells modulate proprioceptive sensory input and motor neuron output. Genetic tracing studies showed that Renshaw cells are derived from an *En1⁺* progenitor pool and, although they are not lost in the absence of *En1*, they do have fewer motor neuron recurrent inputs (Sapir et al., 2004). They are, however, lost in the absence of *Pax6* (Sapir et al., 2004). Recent study showed that selective activation of the *Onecut* transcription factors *Oc1* and *Oc2* during the first wave of V1 interneuron neurogenesis is a key step in the Renshaw cell differentiation; furthermore Renshaw cell development is dependent on the forkhead transcription factor *Foxd3*, which is more broadly expressed in post-mitotic V1 interneurons (Stam et al., 2012).

V1 Ia Interneuron

Although Ia interneurons have been rediscovered as a V1 subclass, like Renshaw cells, the Ia INs were functionally described before the advent of molecular genetic dissection of interneuron development (Eccles et al., 1954; Hultborn et al., 1971; Hultborn and Udo, 1972). These inhibitory glycinergic cells receive input from muscle spindle Ia proprioceptive afferents carrying muscle length information and provide inhibitory

input onto motor neurons innervating antagonist muscles. Like motor neurons, Ia receive inhibitory inputs from Renshaw cells (Hultborn et al., 1971). In neonatal mice, disynaptic glycinergic reciprocal inhibition is mediated by Ia interneurons, although this activity is preserved in the absence of *Pax6*, indicating that cells of more than one origin contributes to this functional class (Wang et al., 2008). Only when V1 and V2b are both ablated is reciprocal inhibition profoundly altered. Renshaw cells constitute 8–19% of V1 interneurons and the *Foxp2*⁺ (by immunohistochemistry) population accounts for around 33% of these neurons at P0 and 50% at E13 (Morikawa et al., 2009). Because there are no universal markers of Ia interneurons, all Ia interneurons cannot be accounted for, leaving the physiologic properties and connectivity patterns of V1 interneurons unaccounted for (Alvarez et al., 2005). Of note, some interneurons with synaptic organization like Ia interneurons have been found that arise from the V1 population and are *Foxp2* positive (Morikawa et al., 2009). A survey in E12.5 mice showed that several V1 subclasses can be defined by expression of *Calbindin*, *OC1*, *OC2*, *OC3*, *Foxd3*, *En1*, *MafB*, *FoxP2*, *Foxd3*, *Foxp4*, *Pax2*, *Arx*, *Evx1*, *Nurr1*, *BhlhB5*, *Pou4F1*, *Pou3F1*, and *Prdm8* (Francius et al., 2013).

V2 Interneuron Characteristics

V2 interneurons become divided into V2a and V2b classes of ipsilaterally projecting interneurons that extend axons caudally across several segments (Goulding, 2009). The excitatory V2a class is glutamatergic and expresses *Chx10*, while the *Gata2/3*⁺ V2b class is inhibitory and uses both glycine and GABA (Figure 4D; Al-Mosawie et al., 2007; Lundfald et al., 2007). The transcription factor, *Bhlhb5*, marks the V2, as well as V1 and dI6 domains (Ramos et al., 2010).

V2 Birth and Early Development (Notch-Delta)

V2 interneurons arise from a progenitor pool just dorsal to the pMN domain and share expression of *Lhx3* with the pMN domain. In addition, both domains share expression of NLI that forms homodimers. This NLI homodimer nucleates the formation of a higher-order tetramer with *Lhx3* in the V2 progenitor domain, and in the case of pMNs this V2-defining tetramer (*Lhx3*-NLI-NLI-*Lhx3*) is disrupted by the insertion of *Isl1* to form a hexamer (*Lhx3*-*Isl1*-NLI-NLI-*Isl1*-*Lhx3*). Transcriptional response elements that are active in V2 cells can bind both the motor neuron hexamers and the V2 associated tetramers, while response elements active in motor neurons are only responsive to the hexamers (Lee et al., 2008). Later the V2 domain expresses *Chx10* that acts as a repressor of motor neuron associated hexamers in V2 progenitors, leaving only the LIM tetramers active (Sander et al., 2000; Lee et al., 2008). The progenitor pool of V2 neurons becomes post-mitotically segregated into V2a and V2b neurons.

Time-lapse imaging in zebrafish showed that the majority of V2 progenitors give rise to a pair of V2a and V2b cells (Kimura et al., 2008), indicating that V2a and V2b arise from the same progenitor. This segregation into V2a and V2b is mediated by Notch/delta signaling in zebrafish and mouse models (Yang et al., 2006; Del Barrio et al., 2007; Peng et al., 2007). In

mouse, Delta4, but not Delta 1, activates this signaling cascade and is downstream of *Foxn4*, which also induces expression of *Mash1/Ascl1* (Del Barrio et al., 2007; Peng et al., 2007). Mind bomb-1 (*Mib1*) is an E3 ubiquitin ligase that ubiquitinates and promotes the endocytosis of Notch ligands. In mice model, *Mib1* plays an important role in Notch activity and specific differentiation, neurogenesis and gliogenesis of V2 interneurons. Mice models with abnormal *Mib1* resulted in unclear spinal progenitors, premature or unbalanced differentiation or loss of astrocytes and oligodendrocytes (Kang et al., 2013). In zebrafish embryos two ligands, DeltaA and DeltaD, and three receptors, Notch1a, Notch1b, and Notch3 redundantly contribute to p2 progenitor maintenance; on the other hand, DeltaA, DeltaC, and Notch1a mainly contribute to the V2a/V2b cell fate determination (Okigawa et al., 2014). Misra et al. (2009) showed *Foxn4* and proneural factors may serve as the trigger to initiate asymmetric Dll4-Notch and subsequent BMP/TGFβ signaling events required for neuronal diversity in the V2 domain (Okigawa et al., 2014). V2b fate is specified by active *Notch1*, *Foxn4*, *Mash1*, and *Scl* Notch-binding protein MAML is also required for this specification (Peng et al., 2007). Lack of active Notch1 results in V2a fate, shown in an increase of V2a interneurons at the expense of V2b in *Psn1* KO mice or *Notch1* KO mice (Del Barrio et al., 2007; Peng et al., 2007). Transcription factor *Gata2* is necessary in the normal development of V2a and V2b neurons and *Gata2* promotes the selective activation of V2b at the expense of V2a fate (Francius et al., 2014). Progenitors that express the notch ligand, Delta-like 4 generate almost all V2a and V2c neurons while producing only a small fraction of neurons of other subtypes along the dorsoventral axis (Zou et al., 2015).

V2 Interneuron Subtypes

V2a Sox14/Chx10

The V2a class of ipsilaterally projecting interneurons expresses the transcription factors *Chx10* and *Sox14* and is glutamatergic. These interneurons are composed of cells with diverse firing properties and morphologies with local as well as long-range ipsilateral projection patterns (Dougherty and Kiehn, 2010a,b; Zhong et al., 2010). This class of interneurons has been shown to contact motor neurons (Al-Mosawie et al., 2007; Stepien et al., 2010) and contralaterally projecting V0 interneurons (Crone et al., 2008). Loss of these cells has been shown to disturb locomotor function in a state-dependent manner (Crone et al., 2008, 2009; Dougherty and Kiehn, 2010a,b; Zhong et al., 2010). In a series of *in vitro* experiments it was found that *Chx10*-DTA V2a-ablated mice displayed more variable amplitude and period than wild-type controls during drug-induced fictive locomotion. Further, these mutant animals had incoherent left-right alternation during drug-induced fictive locomotion. Surprisingly, these animals failed to display coordinated brainstem stimulated or dorsal root stimulated fictive locomotion, suggesting that *Chx10*⁺ cells mediate descending and sensory activation of locomotor activity (Crone et al., 2008).

A subsequent study, using a different strain of mice that avoided the neonatal lethality seen in previous work, showed that during treadmill running, *Chx10*-DTA mice can transition from

alternating locomotion to synchronous hindlimb locomotion at higher speeds. High-speed synchronous left–right activity, or galloping, is not normally seen in mice, although it has been described in studies of *Eph* and *ephrin* signaling molecule mutant mice (Dottori et al., 1998; Kullander et al., 2001; Yokoyama et al., 2001). The *Eph/ephrin* mutant mice, however, have synchronous activity at both slow and fast speeds. Some V2a interneurons express *EphA4*, but a compelling correlation has yet to be discovered (Lundfald et al., 2007). In zebrafish, *alx*, a zebrafish homolog of *Chx10*, is expressed in an ipsilateral descending excitatory interneuron population named CiD (circumferential descending) neurons that monosynaptically contact motor neurons (Kimura et al., 2006; McLean et al., 2008). This population has been shown to be active during high-frequency swimming in larval zebrafish (McLean et al., 2008). Within this interneuron class, dorsally located cells are recruited at a high swimming frequency. As the frequency decreases, more ventral cells are recruited, accompanied by silencing of previously active dorsal cells (McLean et al., 2008). A survey in E12.5 mice showed that V2a subclasses can be defined by expression of *BhlhB5*, *Pou3F1*, *OC1*, *OC2*, *OC3*, *Prdm8*, *MafA*, and *cMaf* (Francius et al., 2013).

V2b Gata2/3

Ipsilaterally projecting V2b interneurons express *Gata2/3*, are inhibitory GABAergic neurons, and appear to make direct connections onto motor neurons (Lundfald et al., 2007; Peng et al., 2007). Observations by the Goulding lab indicate they project caudally (Zhang et al., 2014). These cells may underlie the retained reciprocal inhibitory pathways seen in V1 knockout mice (Wang et al., 2008). A survey in E12.5 mice showed that V2b subclasses can be defined by expression of *BhlhB5*, *Pou3F1*, *OC1*, *OC2*, *OC3*, *Prdm8*, *MafA*, and *MafB* (Francius et al., 2013). As pointed out earlier, V1- and V2b-derived neurons function as the core interneuronal components of the limb central pattern generator (CPG) that coordinate flexor-extensor motor activity (Zhang et al., 2014).

V2c Sox1

The V2 interneuron class has recently been shown to further diverge to a Sox1-expressing Gata3-negative population named V2c interneurons, function of which is still yet to be elucidated (Li et al., 2010; Panayi et al., 2010). A survey in E12.5 mice showed that V2c subclasses can be defined by expression of *Sox1*, *OC1*, *OC2*, and *OC3* (Francius et al., 2013).

V3 Interneuron Characteristics

The *Sim1*⁺ *VGluT2*⁺ glutamatergic V3 interneurons send projections predominantly contralaterally and caudally (Goulding, 2009). Genetic tracing, using a *Sim1-eGFP* or *Sim1*^{Cre} and reporter lines, and viral tracing, using pseudorabies, shows that 80–85% of these cells project contralaterally and a minor proportion remain ipsilateral or project both contra- and ipsilaterally (Zhang et al., 2008). As a population, *Sim1*⁺ V3 interneurons form 24% of glutamatergic connections on V1 Ia, 27% on Renshaw subclasses, 22% of glutamatergic synapses on lateral motor column motor neurons, as well as connections

on *Lhx3*⁺ V2 interneurons, and lamina VIII commissural interneurons (Zhang et al., 2008). Behaviorally, loss of V3 neuronal activity by genetic attenuation with tetanus toxin or allatostatin signaling resulted in a loss of CPG robustness. In isolated cord fictive locomotion, both dorsal root stimulation and drug-induced methods produced weak CPG activity in only some of the cords examined. The outputs were less consistent and had greater coefficients of variance. Although both right and left sides of the cord produced irregular outputs, the fidelity of left–right coordination was preserved suggesting that V3 interneurons do not regulate the coordination of left–right activity. In adult *Sim1*^{Cre} *AlstR192* animals, application of allatostatin to the cord produced locomotor disturbances in gait, as well (Zhang et al., 2008). In *Sim1* mutant mice, V3 interneurons are produced normally and maintain in the similar position and organizations as wild-type; however, there is significant reduction of interneurons in dorsal subgroup and there is significant reduction in the contralateral axonal projection. Therefore, *Sim1* appears to be critical in migration and axonal projection of V3 interneuronal development (Blacklaws et al., 2015). Mice that are mutant for *Nkx2.2* and *Nkx2.9* lose V3 interneurons and *Nkx2.2*^{+/-} *Nkx*^{-/-} mice display intermittent or permanent hopping gait (Holz et al., 2010). Holz et al. (2010) indicate that this mutation affects floor plate, and therefore likely affects commissural interneuron projections that mediate left–right coordination. A survey in E12.5 mice showed that V2c subclasses can be defined by expression of *Olig3*, *Prox1*, *BhlhB5*, and *Nurr1* (Francius et al., 2013).

V3 Birth and Early Development

These V3 interneurons arise from the ventral-most p3 progenitor domain defined by homeobox transcription factors *Nkx2.2* and *Nkx2.9* and the PAS-bHLH transcription factor *Sim1* (simple-minded homolog 1; Figure 4E; Briscoe et al., 1999; Goulding et al., 2002). Genetic tracing techniques using a *Sim1*^{TauLacZ} knock-in reporter mouse or *Sim1*^{Cre} and reporter lines (*R26*^{floxstop-p-GAP43-GFP} and *R26*^{floxstop-lacZ}) have shown similar expression at E11.5 to *in situ* hybridization data for *Sim1* expression that appeared just lateral to the *Nkx2.2* progenitors (Marion et al., 2005; Zhang et al., 2008). *Nkx2.2* also regulates the expression of *Olig3* in V3 neurons. While *Olig3* plays a key role in respecification of dl2 and dl3 neurons into dl4 interneurons in dorsal spinal cord (see below), it does not appear to affect the generation and migration of the ventral neurons (Liu et al., 2014).

V3_D and V3_V

Each class of interneurons can likely be further subdivided. The existence of V3 subtype heterogeneity defined by cell body positions was first reported in a review of locomotor circuitry by the Goulding group (Goulding, 2009). This group recently examined both electrophysiological and morphological properties of mature V3 interneurons in adult mouse and were able to identify two V3 subpopulations with distinct intrinsic properties and distributions (ventral and dorsal), as well as an important intermediate subgroup (Borowska et al., 2013). They

reported V3_V, primarily located in lamina VIII, possessed a few branching processes and were capable of generating rapid tonic firing spikes and V3_D had a more complex morphology with relatively slow average spike frequency with strong adaptation (Borowska et al., 2013). A survey in E12.5 mice showed that V3_V express *Olig3*, *Prox1*, *BhlhB5*, and *Nurr1*, and V3_D can be defined by expression of *OC1*, *OC2*, and *OC3* (Francius et al., 2013).

V_X Hb9

A group of glutamatergic, rhythmically active interneurons with possible connections to motor neurons can be found along either side of the ventral midline in thoracic and upper lumbar segments (Thaler et al., 1999; Wichterle et al., 2002; Hinckley et al., 2005; Wilson et al., 2005). These Hb9⁺ and *VGluT2*⁺ interneurons are found in lamina VIII, although the developmental origin of these cells is unknown (Figure 4F). These cells have oscillatory behavior, make potential contacts with motor neurons, and are associated with motor rhythms (Hinckley et al., 2005; Wilson et al., 2005; Hinckley and Ziskind-Conhaim, 2006). These interneurons were the first to show oscillatory properties and efforts have been made to discover a relationship to rhythm generation or a pacemaker property for the CPG (Kwan et al., 2009). No cell class, however, has been found to act as a pacemaker for CPG activity. Remaining questions for the V_X include: what is the progenitor domain that gives rise to the V_X domain; and why are they not found below the L2 segment at E18.5.

Dorsal Interneuron Progenitors

There are eight canonical classes of dorsal progenitors, dI1–6 and dILA and dILB. Of these, the dorsal-most dI1–3 progenitors are dependent on signals from the roof plate and termed Class A (Liem et al., 1997; Lee et al., 2000). The remaining dI4–6 and dILA and dILB are independent of roof plate signals and termed Class B (Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002). The dorsal-most progenitors, pd1–pd3, are born between days E9.5 and 10.5 and become post-mitotic and begin to migrate ventrally between E10.5 and E11.5 (Helms and Johnson, 1998; Bermingham et al., 2001; Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002). These cells will eventually form the deeper layers of the dorsal horn. The more ventral Class B dI4–6 cells are born between E10 and 12.5 and then post-mitotically express *Lbx1* and migrate either dorsally to form the more superficial layers of the dorsal horn or migrate ventrally to the deep dorsal horn and the ventral spinal cord (Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002). The later born dILA and dILB classes are born between E11 and E13 and are intermixed with each other. They then migrate dorsally and constitute a significant portion of the cells in the superficial dorsal horn, including the substantia gelatinosa (Nornes and Carry, 1978; Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002; Mizuguchi et al., 2006). As with the ventral interneuron classes, each of these classes, or their subgroups, has characteristic features. For instance, each interneuron subclass appears to have a unique axonal projection that produces a tight fascicle within white matter tracts (Avraham et al., 2009, 2010).

dI1 Interneuron Characteristics

The dorsal-most progenitor domain pd1 expresses the bHLH transcription factor *Math1*⁺ (Mouse atonal homolog 1, also known as *Atoh1*) and gives rise to at least two *VGluT2*⁺ glutamatergic subclasses: dI1A and dI1B, characterized by Lim-HD expression and their spinocerebellar tract (SCT) contributions (Figure 4G). Recent study shows that *Msx1* and *Msx2*, two homeodomain transcription factors that are induced earlier than bHLH transcription factors, likely play a role as transcriptional activators of *Math1/Atoh1* in spinal cord development (Duval et al., 2014). The dI1A (also known as dI1_{comm}) neurons express the Lim-HD transcription factors *Lhx2*_{high} and *Lhx9*_{low}, while dI1B (also known as dI1_{ipsi}) express the Lim-HD TF *Lhx9* (Helms and Johnson, 1998; Lee et al., 1998; Bermingham et al., 2001; Gowan et al., 2001; Wilson et al., 2008; Avraham et al., 2009). The dI1 interneurons migrate to the deep dorsal horn and intermediate gray where they receive proprioceptive input from the periphery and form commissural projections of dorsal and ventral SCTs (Helms and Johnson, 1998; Bermingham et al., 2001). Using an *Atoh1*^{LacZ} allele to trace the fate of pd1 progenitors in developing mouse, at least two subsets of the dI1 class have been identified: (1) a medial cluster of vertically oriented neurons that are *Cbln2*⁺ and *Smarca2*⁺ and projects to the SCT in the contralateral (*Tag1*⁺) lateral funiculus; (2) a more lateral *Sox6*⁺, cluster of horizontally oriented neurons that contributes to the SCT in the ipsilateral lateral funiculus (Miesegeas et al., 2009). In chick, data with an enhancer that labels these cells suggests that both fascicles coalesce in the lateral funiculus ventral to the fascicle formed by the dI2 projections (Avraham et al., 2009).

dI1 Birth and Early Development

The roof-plate-dependent Class A dp1 progenitors of the dI1 class express the bHLH transcription factors *Olig3* and *Math1* (Muller et al., 2005; Gowan et al., 2001). The dI1 neurons in mouse are born between E10 and E12.5 and express *Lhx2/9*, *Barhl1* (bar homeobox like 1) and *Brn3a* (*Pou4f1*, a class IV POU domain-containing transcription factor; Helms and Johnson, 1998). Loss of function experiments with BMP7 in chick and *Bmp7* mutant mice results in loss of dI1, dI3, and dI5 (Le Dréau et al., 2012).

dI2 Interneuron Characteristics

dI2 interneurons are ascending, contralaterally projecting, relay interneurons that migrate to the intermediate spinal cord and ventral horn (Gowan et al., 2001; Gross et al., 2002). These interneurons have been suggested to convey sensory information via the spinothalamic tract to the thalamus, based on their location (Figure 4E; Brown, 1981; Tracey, 1985; Gross et al., 2002). The projections likely occupy the lateral funiculus and are dorsal to the dI1 fascicle, as analyzed by enhancer expression in chick (Avraham et al., 2009). Arising from bHLH transcription factor *Ngn1* (neurogenin 1) and *Ngn2* expressing progenitors, these neurons express LIM-HD transcription factors *Lhx1*, *Lhx5* and winged-helix domain *Foxd3* (forkhead homeobox D3) post-mitotically (Bermingham et al., 2001; Gowan et al., 2001; Gross et al., 2002). These interneurons were previously known as D3A interneurons.

dl2 Birth and Early Development

The roof-plate-dependent Class A dl2 progenitor domain, pd2, is characterized by the expression of the bHLH transcription factors, *Olig3*, *Ngn1*, and *Ngn2* and are born between E10- and E12.5 (Figure 4H; Gowan et al., 2001; Muller et al., 2005). Two SoxD transcription factors, Sox5 and Sox6, are expressed in restricted domains of dorsal progenitors. Sox5 controls cell fate specification of dp2 and dp3 progenitors and, as a result, controls the correct number of the corresponding dorsal interneurons (dl2 and dl3; Quiroga et al., 2015).

dl3 Interneuron Characteristics

The dl3 neurons are excitatory interneurons in the deep dorsal horn and intermediate spinal cord (Liem et al., 1997; Gowan et al., 2001; Cheng et al., 2004). These cells target motor neurons monosynaptically, as revealed by recent rabies tracing experiments (Stepien et al., 2010). They have axons that project rostrally, ipsilaterally, and longitudinally in two fascicles. A ventral fascicle enters the ventral funiculus (VLF) and the dorsal fascicle enters the dorsal funiculus (DF; Avraham et al., 2010). The dorsal projecting axons re-enter the cord when they encounter axons sensory axons at the dorsal root entry zone (DREZ; Avraham et al., 2010). Similarly, the ventrally projecting neurons re-enter the cord at ventral root exit points (Avraham et al., 2010). In mice model, dl3 appears to convey input from low threshold cutaneous afferents to the motor neurons that is critical in hand/forelimb grip (Bui et al., 2013). The dl3 pool also expresses *Tlx3* (T-cell leukemia homeobox 3) and LIM-HD transcription factor *Isl1*-expressing cells (Figure 4I; Gross et al., 2002). The turning behavior of dl3 neurons is dependent on *Isl1*, and expression of *Isl1* in dl1 neurons conferred dl3-like axon choice points to dl1 neurons (Avraham et al., 2010). *Tlx1* (also known as *Hox11*) and *Tlx3* (also known as *Rnx* and *Hox11L2*) are markers of glutamatergic signaling. *Tlx3* functions cell-autonomously to specify a glutamatergic neurotransmitter phenotype (Cheng et al., 2004).

dl3 Birth and Early Development

The roof-plate dependent Class A dp3 progenitors express the basic helix-loop-helix (bHLH) transcription factor *Mash1* (*Ascl1*, Mouse Achaete-scute complex-like 1), as do adjacent pd4 and pd5 domains (Gowan et al., 2001; Helms et al., 2005). They also express *Olig3*, *Pax7* and *Ngn2* and *Gsh2* (Muller et al., 2005). In chick spinal cord electroporation experiments it has been shown that over-expression of *Olig3* increases dl3 interneurons at the expense of other Classes A and B neuron classes and this effect is enhanced by *Mash1* (Muller et al., 2005). Over-expression of *Mash1* results in more dl3 and dl5 neurons at the expense of dl2 and dl4 (Muller et al., 2005), while loss of *Mash1* causes a decrease in dl3 and dl5 populations while dl4 is maintained (Helms et al., 2005). As mentioned above, loss of function experiments with BMP7 in chick and *Bmp7* mutant mice results in loss of dl1, dl3, and dl5 (Le Dréau et al., 2012).

dl4 Interneuron Characteristics

The early born (E10.5–E11) dl4 interneurons become *Pax2*⁺, *Lhx1*⁺, and *Lhx5*⁺ GABAergic ipsilaterally projecting

somatosensory associative neurons that migrate laterally to the deep dorsal horn (Figure 4J; Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002; Pillai et al., 2007). In addition, both dl4 and dl5 interneurons also express *Gsh1* (*Gsx1*) and *Gsh2* post-mitotically, while dl3 only express *Gsh2* (Kriks et al., 2005; Muller et al., 2005; Mizuguchi et al., 2006). They are GABAergic, calbindin⁺ and express the nociceptive marker *PLCγ* (Chen et al., 2001; Helms and Johnson, 2003). The dl4 fate is dependent on *Ptfla* and loss of this gene results in loss of all GABAergic dorsal neurons and respecification to dl5 fate (Henke et al., 2009; Meredith et al., 2009). Loss of *Lhx1* and *Lhx5* results in a loss of *Pax2*, *Viaa*, and *Gad1* (Pillai et al., 2007). In addition, *Pax2* is required for the maintained expression of *Lhx1*, *Lhx5*, *Pax5*, and *Pax8* (Pillai et al., 2007).

dl4 Birth and Early Development

The roof-plate independent Class B dp4 domain expresses *Lbx1*, *Mash1* and higher levels of *Pax7* than the dorsally adjacent pD3 domain (Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002). These progenitors are born between E10.5 and E11 and this domain is distinct from the dlL progenitor domain that produces dlL_A and dlL_B progenitors, although both have very similar transcription factor expression patterns (below). *Olig3* over-expression can inhibit formation of dl4, and loss can result in expansion of this domain (Muller et al., 2005). While these cells express *Mash1*, loss of *Mash1* does not block dl4 formation, yet it does disrupt dl3 and dl5 (Helms et al., 2005).

dl5 Interneuron Characteristics

The roof-plate independent Class B dl5 neurons become contralaterally projecting glutamatergic somatosensory interneurons of the deep dorsal horn (nucleus proprius) and ventral horn that express the homeodomain transcription factors *Lbx1*, *Brn3a*, *Tlx1*, *Tlx3*, and *Lmx1b* (Figure 4K; Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002; Qian et al., 2002; Ding et al., 2005; Glasgow et al., 2005). In addition, a subset expresses *PhoxA2* (Ding et al., 2004). These interneurons were previously known as D4.

dl5 Birth and Early Development

These cells are born between E10.5–E11 and arise from a *Mash1*⁺ and *Pax7*⁺ dp5 progenitor domain that express *Lbx1* post-mitotically to both reinforce Class B fate and oppose Class A fates (Figure 4K; Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002). The dl5 domain expresses *Gsh1* and *Gsh2*, as does the adjacent dl4 domain (Kriks et al., 2005). As noted previously, loss of function experiments with BMP7 in chick and *Bmp7* mutant mice results in loss of dl1, dl3, and dl5 (Le Dréau et al., 2012).

dl6 Interneuron Characteristics

The roof-plate independent Class B dl6 commissural inhibitory interneurons express *Lbx1*, *Lhx1*, *Lhx5*, and are *Pax2* positive, indicating a GABAergic fate (Figure 4L; Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002; Cheng et al., 2004; Glasgow et al., 2005; Pillai et al., 2007). These cells may also use glycine for neurotransmission (Goulding, 2009). Although arising from a dorsal progenitor pool, and not being part of the “V” interneurons, the dl6 group

of interneurons gives rise to more than one subtype and appears to contribute to motor function (Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002; Lanuza et al., 2004). These inhibitory neurons are reported in unpublished observations to be commissural and may be involved in right-left alternation, as well (Goulding, 2009). *Dmrt3*, a novel marker in dl6 interneuron was traced to play a key role in locomotor circuitry and in development of commissural interneurons, and mutation in *dmrt3* result in divergent in gait pattern in mice models (Andersson et al., 2012; Vallstedt and Kullander, 2013). Double knockout of *Lhx1* and *Lhx5* results in a loss of *Pax2*, *Viaat*, and *Gad1* expression (Pillai et al., 2007). Furthermore, *Pax2* is required for the maintained expression of *Lhx1*, *Lhx5*, *Pax5*, and *Pax8* (Pillai et al., 2007). These cells also express *WT1* (Wilms' tumor 1; Goulding, 2009). The transcription factor, *Bhlhb5*, marks the dl6, V1 and V2 domains (Ramos et al., 2010). Electrophysiologic characteristics of the dl6 interneurons around a central canal reveal two possible subtypes: one firing trains of action potentials that are loosely coupled to the ventral root output and expressing intrinsic rhythmic activity which suggests a role in locomotor rhythm generation. The other subtype fires action potentials that are tightly coupled to the ventral root output (Dyck et al., 2012).

dl6 Birth and Early Development

The dl6 neurons are born around E10.5–E11 and originate from a *Pax7*⁺, *Dbx2*⁺, *Ngn1*⁺ and *Ngn2*⁺ pD6 progenitor domain. Post-mitotically they express *Bhlhb5*, *Wt1*, *Lbx1*, *Lhx1*, *Lhx5*, and *Pax2* (references above).

Late Born Dorsal Interneurons

The dIL neurons represent a second wave of neurogenesis from the dIL progenitor domain that constitutes most of the interneurons in the superficial dorsal horn in Rexed laminae II–IV (Gross et al., 2002; Muller et al., 2002). These cells are formed from common progenitors, and their cell fates are controlled by *Ascl1/Mash1* (Figure 4M; Mizuguchi et al., 2006).

dIL_A Interneuron Characteristics

The roof-plate independent Class B IL_A interneurons are ipsilaterally projecting association neurons that occupy the superficial dorsal horn in Rexed laminae I–III (Gross et al., 2000). These inhibitory neurons are GABAergic and are calbindin⁺, and a subset express *Gbx1* (John et al., 2005; Mizuguchi et al., 2006).

dIL_A Birth and Early Development

The dIL_A interneurons are late born (E.13.5) and arise from the dIL progenitor domain that is *Lbx1*⁺, *Lhx1/5*⁺, and *Pax2*⁺ (Pillai et al., 2007). The sensory relay interneuron marker *Foxd3* is downregulated in these cells (Gross et al., 2002). *Pax2* has been shown to be necessary for GABAergic differentiation and 98% of these cells also express *Gad1* (*GAD67*; Cheng et al., 2004). The dIL_A subclass is dependent on *Ptf1a* and loss of this gene results in trans-fate to the dIL^B identity (Glasgow et al., 2005).

dIL_B Interneuron Characteristics

The roof-plate independent Class B are *DRG11*⁺ ipsilaterally projecting association interneurons that integrate input from cutaneous sensory neurons that detect noxious stimuli (Chen et al., 2001; Gross et al., 2002). This last-born subclass gives rise to glutamatergic neurons expressing *Tlx1* and *Tlx3* and *Lmx1b* (Cheng et al., 2004; Mizuguchi et al., 2006). The dIL_B neurons migrate dorsolaterally to settle in the superficial dorsal horn in Rexed laminae I–III (Gross et al., 2000; Muller et al., 2002). Over 96% of the dorsolateral population of these cells expresses both *Tlx3* and *VGluT2* (Cheng et al., 2004; Glasgow et al., 2005).

dIL_B Birth and Early Development

These neurons are born later than the dl1–6 class and express *Lbx1* post-mitotically (Gross et al., 2000; Muller et al., 2002). *Mash1* controls the upregulation of Notch signaling to direct formation of dILB from common dIL progenitors (Mizuguchi et al., 2006).

Discussion

Combinatorial transcriptional control of cell fate is a mature perspective for understanding spinal cord development. This focus on transcription factors has been powerful in two major respects. First, it has allowed the identification of downstream factors that direct cell-specific characteristics, such as neurotransmitter status (Cheng et al., 2004). Second, it has permitted a powerful genetic analysis of spinal neurons, using transcription factors as class-specific tools to drive changes in cell fate and function (Lee et al., 2000; Zhang et al., 2008). Novel techniques are emerging for tracing neuronal circuitry and for the sophisticated manipulation of neuronal activity, including selective cellular ablation, optogenetic activation and silencing, and chemically induced activation and silencing (Boyden et al., 2005; Wickersham et al., 2007; Alexander et al., 2009). These techniques may reach their most exciting potential when coupled with the increasingly specific genetic control available in the spinal cord.

The further refinement of developmental neuronal classes is showing that subclasses may reflect functionally coherent groups of cells that can be mapped onto physiologically identified populations (Figure 5). Therefore, as the spinal cord development field grows to incorporate circuitry and behavior, it is merging with the rich field of adult spinal cord electrophysiology that has uncovered major mechanisms of spinal cord function. The combination of these disciplines will advance spinal cord biology to a state that fully encompasses both form and function.

Acknowledgments

We apologize to the researchers whose work was not included due to space constraints. We thank Samuel Pfaff for support; and Ariel Levine, Marito Hayashi, and members of the Pfaff Laboratory for critical reading of this manuscript.

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Conflict of Interest Statement: The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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Current Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Reports

e-ISSN 2167-4833

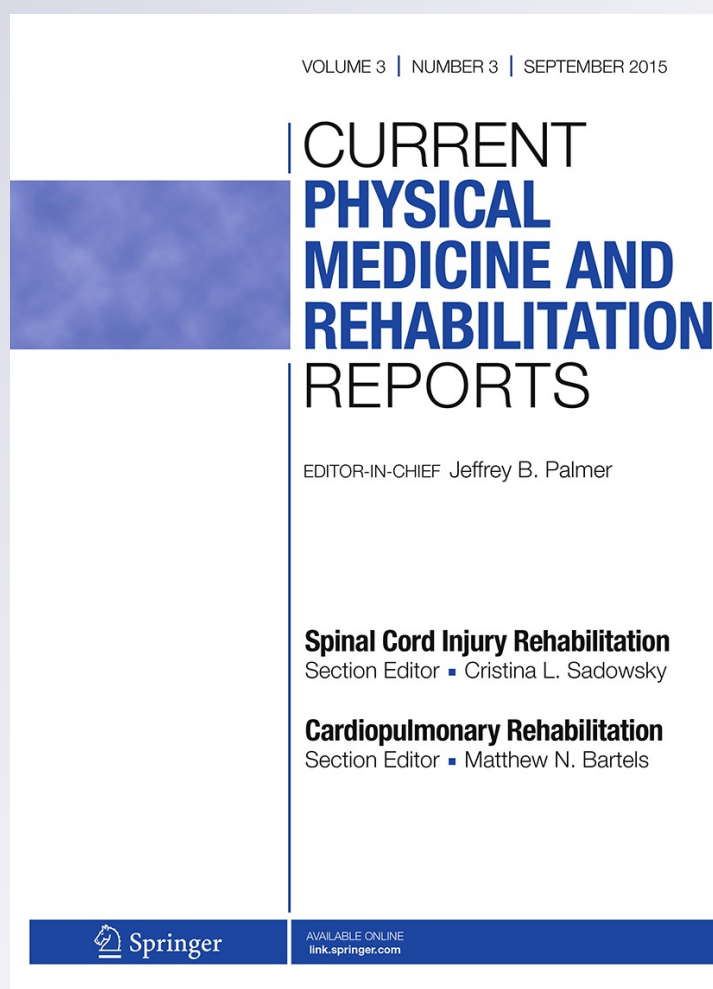
Volume 3

Number 3

Curr Phys Med Rehabil Rep (2015)

3:206-213

DOI 10.1007/s40141-015-0096-z



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Strategies and lessons in spinal cord injury rehabilitation

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Published online: 22 July 2015
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Abstract The spinal cord is often underappreciated as part of the central nervous system. Like the brain, the spinal cord can independently carry out relatively complex behaviors, such as left–right and flexor–extension alternation of the limbs, through activation of resident central pattern generator circuitry. Here the spinal cord integrates ascending or local proprioceptive information with descending sensory and volitional information. In the context of injury, portions of the isolated spinal cord may still be capable of carrying out sophisticated processing for sensorimotor function. Several modes of stimulation appear to activate the central pattern generating circuitry in SCI: treadmill stepping, magnetic stimulation, electrical stimulation, vibratory stimulation, and pharmacologic agents. Like the brain, the spinal cord is capable of classical and operant conditioning. This observation highlights the need for well-planned therapeutic interventions that work with the innate behavior of the cord and avoid maladaptive learning that can occur if noxious stimuli are

present during rehabilitation. Patient-specific multimodal therapies that work with innate spinal cord behaviors are most likely to benefit patients with SCI.

Keywords Spinal cord injury · Rehabilitation · Electrical stimulation · Magnetic stimulation · Treadmill stepping · Operant conditioning

Introduction

The central nervous system consists of the spinal cord, hindbrain, midbrain, and forebrain. The spinal cord contains 31 segments that mediate all motor and sensory functions (save those of the cranial nerves). The spinal cord does not simply relay these descending commands and ascending sensory signals. In addition to substantial fibers of passage that surround the cord with white matter, the central region of the cord contains gray matter. This gray matter contains dozens of distinct interneuron cell types, as well as the pools of motor neurons that are distinct for each muscle of the body [1, 2].

The majority of spinal cord injuries happen at one location affecting one, or a few, spinal levels. As a result, a great deal of spinal cord tissue is unharmed—although it may be isolated from the brain—unable to convey ascending sensory signals or receive descending motor commands. The field of rehabilitation for spinal cord injury has developed, and demonstrated, the concept that spared spinal cord can be activated by several means to restore function. The combination of activation modalities, and in what context they are delivered, appears to be critical to the appropriate re-activation of spinal cord following injury. Below we review key concepts in the field of spinal cord injury rehabilitation.

This article is part of the Topical Collection on *Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation*.

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Basis of human locomotion

Coordination of the limbs during locomotion, or during stereotyped behaviors, is mediated by several interdependent regions of the central nervous system, including the spinal cord. The recognition that the spinal cord can semi-autonomously coordinate limb movement was proposed by Graham-Brown in 1911 with his half-center hypothesis to explain the observation that reduced preparations can produce coordinated movement [3]. This early model, developed in cats, did not account for descending or sensory information. Over 70 years later, work in isolated lamprey spinal cords resulted in the concept of Central Pattern Generators (CPGs) [4]. Within the lumbosacral cord of model mammals, cat, rat, and mouse, lesion and isolated cord experiments have demonstrated that left–right and flexor–extensor coordination of the hindlimbs can be induced (in actual or fictive locomotion) by pharmacologic or electrical stimulation, or by sensory stimulation [5]. With the advent of molecular genetic experiments in mice, several interneuron classes have been identified that contribute to aspects of left–right and flexor–extensor coordination, and rates of CPG activity [1, 6, 2•].

These reductionist experiments have been useful in solidifying the CPG model; however, rehabilitation requires that complex peripheral proprioceptive (such as walking over varied terrain), central unconscious sensory (vestibular, auditory, visual), and volitional (direction, speed) information to seamlessly modulate the intrinsic CPG circuitry [7]. It appears that CPGs are cyclically permissive in integrating or restrictive in gating these information streams depending on the behavioral state of the animal [8, 9]. While the CPG has robust self-regulation, it can incorporate descending tone [10] from primary and supplementary motor cortex during locomotion [11, 12] and in proportion to walking speed [13].

Activation of lumbosacral CPG circuitry, such as by electrically stimulating the tibial nerve, results in coordination of the upper/fore with the lower/hind limbs via propriospinal connections [14, 15]. As such, leg locomotion alters the reflex behavior in proximal arm muscles, revealing task-dependent coupling of these upper and lower limb spinal circuitries. This status-dependent interaction of distributed motor systems highlights the importance of designing rehabilitation schemes that work within the innate permissive “up states” or resistive “down states” to external modulation through ascending or descending inputs.

Plasticity with locomotor training

Learning and plasticity in the spinal cord is demonstrated by the observation that animals lacking motor input to the hind/lower limbs can learn to stand and walk on a treadmill without input from the brain [16–18], including human

subjects [19]. Here the rehabilitative task is well matched to the innate behavior of the CPG: alternating flexion–extension and left–right alternation [20, 21]. This results in a useful and adaptive behavioral response by the spinal circuitry and CPG. Care must be taken by healthcare professionals to be assured that the rehabilitative strategy is appropriate to the natural behavior of the task being trained, as well as the receptivity status of the cord.

Spinal cord injuries in clinical settings may occur with additional trauma within dermatomes and myotomes innervated by spinal segments below the level of injury. Rehabilitative strategies that are performed in the presence of pain signaling to the isolated cord level(s) may result in adaptive or maladaptive spinal cord learning. For instance, a form of Pavlovian learning, where a behavior (e.g., salivation) can be elicited with a conditioned stimulus (e.g., a bell) that has been paired with an unconditioned stimulus (e.g., food) that can be found within the spinal cord. In spinal animals, it has been shown that innocuous thigh stimulation can be paired with a noxious plantar stimulation. As a result, the conditioned thigh stimulus can produce a paw withdrawal without the unconditioned noxious stimulus [22, 23]. Here, as in the treadmill training above, the learned behavioral response is appropriate to the environmental conditions and the avoidance of pain. Care must be taken to avoid inadvertent, potentially maladaptive, Pavlovian conditioning of isolated spinal segments during rehabilitation.

In similar experiments in spinalized rats, animals can be trained to flex their foot to avoid a shock when the foot is lowered [24]. This context-appropriate behavior improves recovery from spinal cord injury. Importantly, if, however, the stimulus is delivered at random and without consideration of the limb position, a spinal learning deficit with tactile hyperreactivity and impaired recovery of function is observed [25]. It is therefore likely that rehabilitative strategies that elicit limb pain in a random manner or regardless of limb position, even in sensory complete individuals, could elicit maladaptive spinal learning.

Locomotor ability after SCI

Most SCIs result from trauma and majority of those injuries result in incomplete loss of motor and sensory function with some residual functions below the level of injury [26]. This indicates that there are some intact functional neuronal connections across the injury level. Those connections, if activated, may contribute to the plasticity of the nervous system and enhance the potential of functional recovery after SCI [27]. In cases of complete SCI where there is no function below the level of injury, the functional recovery rests heavily on the plasticity of resident spinal locomotor circuitry below the level of injury [28]. The

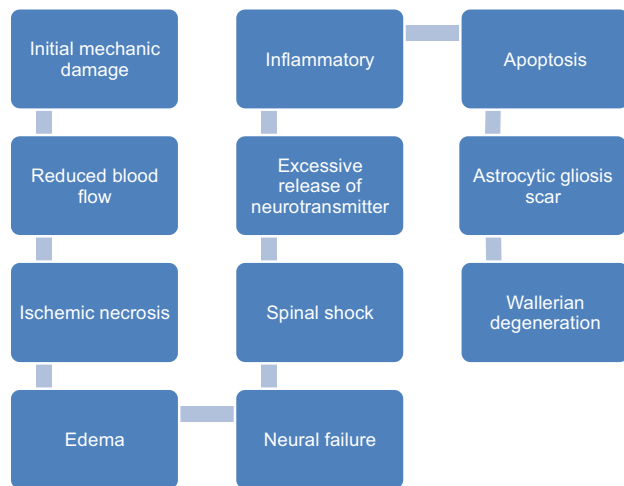


Fig. 1 Sequence of physiologic events following SCI. In SCI, there is the initial insult resulting often from mechanical trauma, such as the shearing force of displaced vertebral bodies. This initial trauma disrupts the vasculature or compresses tissue preventing normal blood flow. Tissue that has been deprived of blood flow for sufficient duration will undergo ischemic necrosis. This is followed by edema due to increased capillary permeability. Neurons in the affected regions that are not killed are exposed to milieu that is not conducive to normal function and undergo neural failure. As a result of these conditions, an acute period of spinal shock lasting for days or weeks can produce a transient loss of movement and sensation. During this period of spinal shock, excessive neurotransmitter may be released, perhaps in an attempt by the local neurons to re-establish homeostasis. Excessive neuronal activity and the necrosis of cells due to ischemia result in inflammation. Inflammation results in apoptotic death of cells in and within the penumbra of the affected region. Over several months, inappropriately a large number of glia are recruited to the region. As a result, an astrocytic glial scar can form that deposits excess myelin and other molecules that inhibit axon growth. Neurons with soma that are outside the focus of the injury or the penumbra may still have damaged axons within the injured region. Neurons with severed axons will slowly retract their axons and die in a characteristic manner called Wallerian degeneration

basis of any functional recovery after SCI is the idea that the central nervous system is a dynamic system that constantly changes, adapts, and reorganizes, particularly after an injury. Bareyre and Schwab summarized the order of events following SCI: from swelling to excess neurotransmitter release to gliosis to eventual scarring and Wallerian degeneration [29] (Fig. 1).

It has been well documented in both mammalian [30] and rodent models [31] that following severe SCI, a significant proportion of locomotor function is maintained by spinal central pattern generator circuitry that generates oscillatory patterns in response to stimulation, such as propriospinal feedback from the limbs. In fact, experimental neonatal rats with complete transection of the spinal cord are still capable of performing treadmill locomotion [32]. Corticospinal tracts, along with the proprioceptive afferent signals from the muscles and extremities, appear to play a more prominent role in modulating and fine tuning

of the otherwise crude locomotion and therefore are much more important in skilled movements [33]. This is especially true in humans, unlike rodents, where corticospinal projections synapse directly on motor neurons.

Electrophysiology studies reveal that the amplitudes of locomotor EMG signals and polysynaptic spinal reflexes increase slowly over time as patients recover from SCI. These plateau after a few months [34] at an EMG activity level that is significantly lower than a healthy individual [35]. Clinically, the patient exhibits increased spinal reflexes, increased muscle tone, and spasticity. In SCI individuals, after some minutes of assisted locomotion, the EMG amplitude decreases to background noise level. This is termed “EMG exhaustion” by Hubli et al. [36•]. This characteristic change is unique to humans, as so far, there are no animal model conditions that can recreate this phenomenon. The phenomenon appears to be closely related to immobility rather than the quality of the injury, as it is evident that incomplete SCI patients who are wheelchair bound show same exhaustion as patients with complete SCI; while patients who undergo frequent locomotion activities show no such exhaustion [37]. The exact cause of the exhaustion is unknown at this time. One theory is that SCI results in reduced excitatory, or increased inhibitory, input from supraspinal sources and afferent input from peripheral sources, and thus an overall increase in inhibitory influence of the locomotor circuitry [37]. This theory, if true, offers a therapeutic opportunity to enhance functions through blocking of inhibitory signals (or improving excitatory signals).

Effect of locomotor training after SCI

As mentioned above, after SCI, with neuronal plasticity, there is a spontaneous re-organization of cortical sensory and motor representations, demonstrating substantial CNS plasticity, particularly in incomplete subjects. In addition to this, however, there is also re-organization and re-structuring of the spinal circuitry after locomotor training [38]. One of the most common forms of locomotor training is body weight supported treadmill training (BWSTT). During the training, the patient’s body weight is supported by a harness or a robotic apparatus. The subject is then asked to step on a motorized treadmill. In complete SCI subjects, steps can also be assisted by therapists or assistive robotics. In both animal and human models, there are numerous studies that support BWSTT as a method to restore locomotion.

In mice model, BWSTT increases axonal sprouting proximal to the injury level [39] and the expression of neurotrophic factors in the spinal cord [40, 41]. In human subjects, functional MRI evidence suggests that BWSTT induces greater activation of bilateral cortical and cerebellar sensory, and motor areas [42]. That this may be a general phenomenon of recovery is reflected in the

observation that similar changes are seen in post-stroke patients after BWSTT training [43]. Electrophysiological evidence shows that BWSTT increases MEP amplitude, reorganizes and re-establishes cortical control of spinal reflexes [44], and spinal interneuron afferents [45].

Despite the above promising findings, a recent Cochrane review by Mehrholz showed that there is no statistically significant effect of locomotor training on walking function in human subjects after SCI, when comparing BWSTT, with or without functional electrical stimulation, or robotic-assisted locomotor training. However, as pointed out by Mehrholz et al., the Cochrane review is limited in its utility because there are only four randomized control trials available for comparison [46••].

Importance of sensory/proprioceptive cues

Following an injury to the spinal cord that results in a reduction in spinal neural and motor activity [47], there is an attendant reduction in the amount of proprioceptive sensory information generated and fed into the spinal cord. Rehabilitative strategies have sought to replace this deficit in proprioceptive feedback onto spinal and CPG circuitries by using vibratory stimulation of the quadriceps and hamstring muscles [48], epidural stimulation of the dorsal cord [19], electrical stimulation of the sural or peroneal nerves [49], and TMS stimulation of the cord [50]. These approaches may create a condition where the CPG circuitry is modulated such that it is in a permissive state to allow incorporation of sensory input.

Work in cats and rodents have demonstrated that a multimodal method of modulation is most effective. Here rehabilitative strategies have used treadmill training, electrical stimulation of the spinal cord, and the use of serotonergic and noradrenergic agonists [51–54]. While limited evidence has been published regarding the use of pharmacology for the recovery of motor function in human subjects, other modalities are being attempted [55]. Other methods, such as transcutaneous spinal direct current stimulation (tsDCS) [56] and the use of paired spinal associative stimulations of H-reflexes and transcranial magnetic stimulation [57], are being applied in the hopes of producing a permissive spinal cord state and behaviors appropriate to the natural function of the spinal cord.

Novel treatments: modulation of spinal cord excitability

Experimental studies in spinalized animals confirm the importance of afferent information in modulating locomotion [51, 52]. The functional state of the spinal cord is

highly dependent on afferent sensory information [58]. And it has been argued that after a severe SCI, due to loss of sensory input, the functional state of the spinal cord is depressed and this further negatively impacts locomotor recovery [36••]. Therefore, tools to activate the locomotor circuitry after SCI may be useful in restoration of locomotor function. Approaches include, body loading (by body weight support treadmill apparatus) [59•], vibratory stimuli of the muscles [60], electrical stimulation of the peripheral nerves [61], electrical [62] and magnetic [50] stimulation of the spinal cord, and pharmacological agents [51, 52] that activate the spinal locomotor circuitry.

Body weight support with manually or robotically assisted devices provides sensory feedback to the cord and is often used to activate the spinal locomotor circuitry [61]. During axial loading, load information from joint and muscles, and tactile sensory information from foot, are thought to be integrated and influence the locomotor central pattern generator to adapt to changing terrain. The effect of this strategy in activating the excitability of the spinal cord circuitry has been demonstrated by an associated increase in H-reflex and data suggesting that functional recovery can be realized in incomplete and complete SCI patients [59•].

Vibratory stimuli at the muscle and joint serve to activate predominantly Ia afferent fibers (muscle spindles) and to lesser extent Ib fibers (Golgi tendon organs) [60] and have the capacity of imparting kinesthesia—sense and positional movement of extremity—in a non-injured subject. Additionally, the vibrated muscle can generate activity that can induce step-like movement in normal and incomplete SCI subject [63•]. Electrical stimulation of peripheral nerves, which may recapitulate some aspects of vibratory stimuli, can modulate the functional state of the CPG. Specific stimulation of the sural or peroneal nerves (0.3 ms pulse width, 2–3 mA, 60 Hz), can induce air-stepping in a gravity-eliminating apparatus that can be enhanced with vibratory muscle stimuli, in healthy subjects [49].

Spinal cord modulation by electrical and magnetic energy is thought to enhance the activation state of the spinal cord such that residual supraspinal input is unmasked and voluntary function revealed (reviewed in [64] Fig. 2), hypothesized to re-enable lower extremity function after severe SCI [65]. Non-invasive means of delivering magnetic (via magnetic coil; [50] and electrical (via surface electrodes; [66•]) stimulation have also been demonstrated to facilitate rhythmic locomotor-like activity in normal subjects. Whether these methods can impact locomotor function in SCI awaits further investigation.

Activation of the spinal cord locomotor circuitry in animals can be performed with pharmacological agents, particularly serotonergic and noradrenergic agonists. However, there is limited clinical evidence that pharmacological treatment can improve locomotor function after SCI [55].

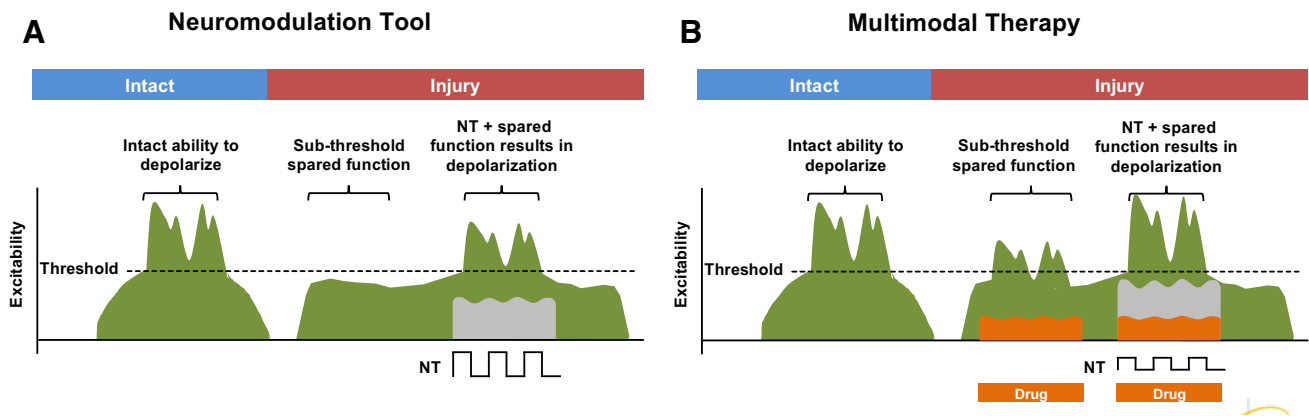


Fig. 2 **a** Neuromodulatory Interventions in SCI. In the intact cord, there is sufficient ascending, local, and descending input to effect depolarization of motor neurons to produce movement. In the context of injury, however, the reduction in inputs to the areas of the spinal cord below the injury results in a state that does not reach the threshold and cannot depolarize motor neurons resulting in paralysis.

The addition of electrical or magnetic stimulation helps increase the state of the spinal cord such that previously subthreshold inputs can now depolarize some motor neurons to produce movement. **b** Rehabilitative strategies that employ interventions with mechanistically discreet actions might result in additive or synergistic improvements in function to recruit greater numbers of motor neurons

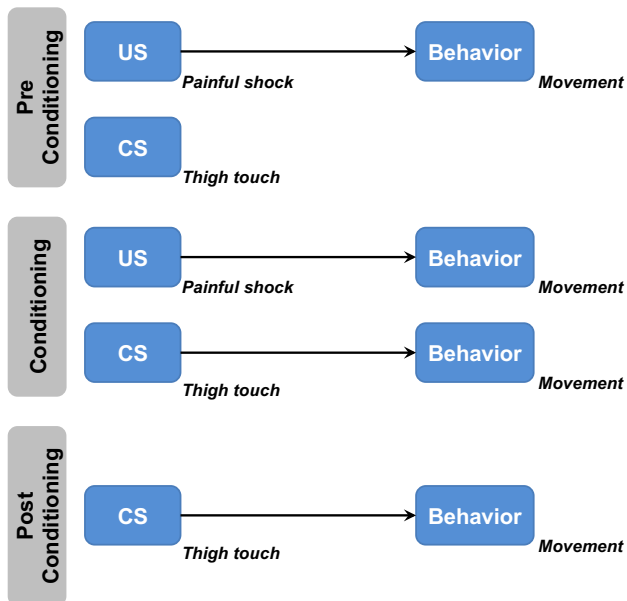


Fig. 3 The spinal cord is capable of learning. Preconditioning. In Pavlovian classical conditioning, the Unconditioned Stimulus, US, is an innate, unlearned behavior, such as retracting the limb from a painful shock. A stimulus for which there is no innate behavior, such as light touch on the thigh, does not result in any innate behavior, and the animal or in the case isolated spinal cord, can be conditioned to respond. Conditioning. Here the Conditioned Stimulus, CS, is paired (delivered at the same time) as the US. This is done over multiple learning sessions to establish the conditioning. Post Conditioning. Once conditioning has been established, the CS will evoke the same behavior as the US. In the context of spinal cord rehabilitation, care must be taken to avoid inadvertently painful stimulation even in sensory complete individuals. Maladaptive learning could occur with pairing of tasks or stimuli meant to improve movement if they co-occur with or produce pain, respectively

There are currently no published studies that assess the utility of pharmacological treatment in patients with complete spinal cord injury (ASIA Impairment Scale A) to determine whether treatment can unmask residual lower extremity function. Such an approach may be fruitful as interventions that enhance spinal cord activity state may serve to enable attenuated supraspinal volitional input distal to lesion of injury (Fig. 3). Additionally, there are currently no multimodal studies that combine electrical/magnetic forms of neuromodulation with pharmacological means to further activate the spinal cord, which may be useful.

Changes in other systems

While there may be limited functional recovery after locomotor training, numerous changes in other systems have been well documented. For example, locomotor training has been shown to increase muscle and bone mass [67, 68]. It has also been shown to increase heart rate, blood pressure regulation, and reduce ventilatory need [69–71]. And perhaps, most importantly, many studies have shown significant increased subjective sense of independence in SCI patients after locomotor training [72, 73].

Conclusion

Because the spinal cord can carry our semi-independent behaviors and is capable of learning, it is critical to design rehabilitative strategies that work with the innate behaviors

of the cord. The innate behavior of integrating proprioceptive information from the limbs and body axis in order to modulate the central pattern generating circuitry is one that shows great promise. Several methods of increasing proprioceptive input (treadmill with body weight support and vibratory stimuli of muscle proprioceptors), or altering the tone of the cord (electric, magnetic, and pharmacologic stimulation) appear to that each method has great promise. Lessons from noxious stimulation experiments demonstrating the ability of the cord to learn operant and classical conditioning, especially to noxious stimuli, should caution caregivers in therapeutic design as some schedules of learning are maladaptive and could result in inadvertent reductions in function. Rehabilitation of the spinal cord, like other regions of the CNS, will have to choose a stimulus or the stimuli that best serve the behavior to be restored, and do so in a schedule that matches the ability of the spinal cord to constructively integrate these inputs.

Acknowledgments This review was made possible by generous support from the J. Yang & Family Foundation. The research described was conducted in the UCLA Clinical and Translational Research Center (CTRC), which was supported by NIH/National Center for Advancing Translational Science (NCATS) UCLA CTSI Grant Number UL1TR000124. D.C.L. is a 1999 Paul & Daisy Soros New American Fellow.

Compliance with Ethics Guidelines

Conflict of Interest Tianyi Niu, William A. Alaynick, and Daniel C. Lu declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Human and Animal Rights and Informed Consent This article does not contain any studies with human or animal subjects performed by any of the authors.

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